

Hammersmith

CHRONICLE

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It all points to a celebration of Shakespeare

■ ON THE MONEY:

Hammersmith and Fulham Citizens Advice Bureau provided financial support and skills training to almost 4,000 people last year – and its work is now making waves in parliament too.

The bureau is warning of the dangers posed by payday lenders and wants to help people manage their money better.

Clarissa Stoneham, the local CAB's financial inclusion manager, spoke to dozens of MPs during a visit to the House of Commons.

She said: "There are lots of payday lenders in our borough and people are bombarded by commercial messages which can make it hard for them to take control of their own feelings and money motivations."

"By enabling and empowering people to take action in a way that suits their needs we build resilience in our community and create less reliance on intervention services."

Clarissa is pictured at the CAB event with Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter.

Picture: John Zammit



Supermarket moves in at luxury complex

A NEW Tesco Express supermarket will be opened at the Fulham Reach development in Hammersmith.

The store will add to the onsite amenities for residents, following the launch of the Fuller's Blue Boat bar and restaurant last year.

Matt Bostock, managing director at St George, said the store would give Fulham Reach a "true sense of place".

The high-end development, where apartment prices start at £1.2 million, offers its residents use of a gym, swimming pool, snooker room and a virtual golf simulator. It also has its own boat club with an indoor training room and rowing machines.

Mr Bostock said: "We are delighted to announce the opening of Tesco Express at Fulham Reach, further adding to the wide range of onsite amenities available to our residents, creating a true sense of place for this riverside location."

Tenants 'dissatisfied'

PRIVATE tenants in Hammersmith are among the least happy with their landlords, new research reveals.

A survey of tenants by the National Landlords Association found that London tenants were less satisfied with their landlords than in other parts of the country. Around three in 10 tenants in the capital said they were not satisfied with their landlord. NLA chief executive Richard Lambert said: "The NLA provides a range of training and accreditation opportunities for landlords in order to help them develop and improve standards – but central and local government must also commit more resources to tackling poor standards and weeding out bad landlords."

Fire at block of flats

FIREFIGHTERS tackled a blaze at a block of flats in Hammersmith Bridge Road.

The fire broke out on the fourth floor last Thursday morning (February 25) and smoke was seen billowing over the Thames.

The London Fire Brigade said four engines and 21 firefighters fought the flames for around two hours.

Crews from Hammersmith, Fulham and Chiswick stations were sent to the scene at around 9.15am and had brought the blaze under control shortly after 11am. No one was injured in the fire but part of the fourth floor flat and the mansard roof was damaged. The cause is under investigation.

Crime blitz triggers CCTV camera boom

BY JACK DIXON

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THE number of CCTV cameras on the streets of Hammersmith and Fulham has almost trebled in the last three years, new figures reveal.

A huge increase in council-sponsored surveillance means the borough is now among the UK's most watched areas.

Between 2012 and 2015 more than £2.4 million was spent on CCTV and the number of cameras leaped from 452

to 1,150. Hammersmith and Fulham council said the cameras have helped to tackle crime and make the streets safer but the CCTV surge has been condemned by civil liberties campaigners.

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

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Bid for success in regeneration game

THE Mayor of London Boris Johnson has achieved a target to support 50 business improvement districts which have contributed more than £25 million to regenerate town centres and industrial sites across the capital.

Since 2012, in excess of 60,000 firms in London have clubbed together to invest millions in business improvement districts (BIDs), which give local businesses a vote to collectively contribute to improve services, boost trading conditions and enhance their towns and public areas.

Local businesses sit on the board of each BID and decide where to allocate funding, which includes measures such as improving pedestrian routes and cycle paths, business support, lobbying and security staff to protect shops and restaurants.

The mayor strongly supports BIDs and their role in the place shaping of town centres and industrial centres and made a commitment to support the creation of 50 improvement districts across the capital before May. City Hall convenes regular network meetings, showcasing BID work, to support businesses and encourages them to bid for resources from the

FROM
THE
MAYOR'S
OFFICE



likes of Transport for London and the Mayor's High Street Fund.

He also signed off £660,000 of funding from the London Enterprise Panel, which was allocated to 12 BIDs.

Research commissioned by the mayor at the end of last year across 36 successful BIDs in London, revealed the number of firms in BID areas increased by 89 per cent from 32,250 in 2012 to 60,980 in 2014, while the number of people employed has risen from just under 500,000 to 905,250

employed by some 61,000 firms of all shapes and sizes spanning right across the city.

Mr Johnson said: "It is clear to see that business improvement districts provide a stronger voice for firms to support the changes they want in their town centres and that is why I made it a manifesto commitment to ensure 50 new ones sprouted up across the city during this term."

"BIDs have played a key part in the regeneration of town centres and industrial estates and they continue to boost growth and help drive London's economy."

The mayor achieved a manifesto pledge when Euston, which is looking to maximise the regeneration potential of the area and take advantage of future transport projects such as Crossrail and HS2, became the 50th BID in the capital last week.

Simon Pitkeathley, chief executive of Camden Town Unlimited, said: "The growth of BIDs in London, from humble beginnings some 10 years ago, to this symbolic figure of 50, is a really interesting shift in the landscape of how London operates and is governed. It would not have been possible without the support of the mayor of

London and it will be really interesting to see how things play out in the coming years."

Helen Clark-Bell of the Love Wimbledon BID, which consists of 420 businesses in the area, said: "Love Wimbledon are delighted that business improvement districts are growing in number and starting to reach a critical mass. BIDs are such a powerful tool for revitalising areas and particularly with local authority budget cuts and the changing nature of retail, having a positive impetus to bring dynamic events and activities along with business focussed projects into the town are very welcome additions to the local economy."

■ The London Enterprise Panel (LEP) is the local enterprise partnership for London. Chaired by the mayor, the LEP is the body through which the mayorality works with London's boroughs, business and Transport for London to take a strategic view of the regeneration, employment and skills agenda for London. The LEP is responsible for overseeing the allocation of over £400million of funding to drive jobs and growth in the capital and provides strategic oversight of London's £1.5 billion European Structural & Investment Funds programme.



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NEWS FROM HAMMERSMITH



■ **GREEN FINGERS:** Hammersmith shoppers have helped pay for a project to replant overgrown flowerbeds at a popular public garden. The Walled Garden at Ravenscourt Park is set for a new lease of life after securing a grant from Tesco's 'Bags for Life' scheme. Over the last few weeks, customers passing through the checkouts at the supermarket's outlets in Hammersmith, Fulham and Shepherd's Bush have been handed special tokens that can be awarded to one of three community projects. The Friends of the Walled Garden group will win a cash prize according to the number of tokens they collect. Volunteers are planning to clear away weeds from three of the overgrown beds and replant them with an array of colourful new flowers. The money for Tesco's grant scheme has been collected from the new five pence charges for carrier bags introduced last year, and will be put towards hundreds of environmental community projects across the country.

Traders back town plan

BUSINESSES have backed plans for a multi-million-pound investment in Hammersmith town centre.

The Hammersmith Business Improvement District – a group set up to represent the interests of local traders and promote the area to visitors – will press ahead with its action plan after winning the approval of businesses in a recent ballot.

Around three quarters of businesses voted for the BID to continue serving the area for another five years.

The group will invest a further £3.7 million in Hammersmith town centre between now and 2021, with plans to entice shoppers, create new visitor events and promote the area through mobile technology.

Reducing the town centre's

carbon footprint with green projects is also on the agenda, while the BID wants to crack down on crime by working closely with the police.

Director Patricia Bench said: "The BID would like to thank the business community for their encouragement and support, and for giving us such a strong mandate to start our third term. We are absolutely delighted with the result as it demonstrates that the BID has compiled a business plan that truly reflects the wants and needs of the area as decided by local businesses. It is also a testament to the amount of hard work the BID team has put in."

The Hammersmith BID was set up 10 years ago and has already invested more than £7 million in the town centre.

'Alcohol deaths' decline

THE number of people in Hammersmith and Fulham who die from alcohol-related conditions has fallen sharply, according to new research.

Figures from Public Health England suggest that the proportion of deaths where alcohol was an underlying factor dipped below the national average for the first time in six years.

The most recent available numbers show that in 2013 about 55 deaths in every 100,000 was linked to an alcohol-related condition, including

heart disease and certain types of cancer.

But in 2014 the figure fell by almost half to about 35 per 100,000.

There was also a slight drop in the number of people who died from alcohol-specific conditions, such as alcohol poisoning.

Researchers also found that the number of deaths from chronic liver disease – an illness linked to high alcohol consumption – was on the decline in Hammersmith and Fulham.

People's taskforce to tackle child poverty

BY JACK DIXON

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A NEW community taskforce has been launched to tackle the poverty crisis in Hammersmith and Fulham as campaigners warn that thousands of children are at risk of falling living standards.

The resident-led commission will carry out extensive research on the borough's poverty problems before presenting an action plan to councillors next year.

It comes amid grave warnings that London is facing a child poverty "time bomb" with 200,000 children set to slip below the poverty line by 2020.

Megan Jarvie, from the Child Poverty Action Group, said: "We are seeing a picture of parents moving into work but still struggling to meet their costs and not necessarily moving out of poverty."

"Children are more likely to be in poverty in London than adults, which to me just seems scandalous. Why are children the biggest losers?"

"A million and a half more children are going to fall into poverty by 2020 and 200,000 of those will be in London, unless the context changes."

Hammersmith and Fulham council, which set up the commission, is calling for residents and local business people to volunteer their time.

It will sit for around a year and hold a series of public hearings to collect evidence on the extent of the borough's poverty crisis.

The commission, which is being chaired by former civil servant Christina Smyth, will then present its findings to the council and recommend a course of action.

The launch follows the publication of the London Poverty Profile, which suggests that even those who are in work are becoming increasingly vulnerable due to the high cost of housing and low pay.

Hannah Aldridge, a senior researcher at the New Policy Institute and one of the report's authors, said there were now more people in poverty in the private rented sector than in social housing.

She added: "The traditional

view of poverty in London is the sink estate, inner London, workless families – but that is not the case. Poverty overall has become much more diffuse, it is not concentrated in small areas any more."

She said this was partly due to the creation of new jobs leading to fewer workless households but warned that other factors meant many employed people were still living below the poverty line.

"The income they get from work is not covering the costs that they have," she said. "It could be that they cannot find enough work, that they are low paid or that they have high housing costs."

Councillor Sue Fennimore, Hammersmith and Fulham council's cabinet member for social inclusion, said: "We are determined to tackle poverty and long-term unemployment locally and get to the root causes stopping people from taking on rewarding work."

"I am delighted Christina has agreed to lead this commission and have no doubt she and her team will make a vital difference to our understanding of these complex issues."

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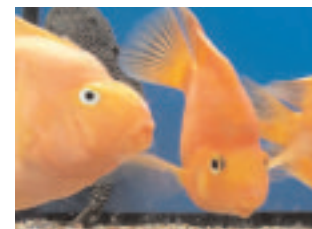
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NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER AND PIMLICO

Students battle to save their theatre

FOR almost 50 years its storied boards have nurtured the performing talents of thousands of students – and played host to some of the biggest names in showbusiness, writes *Patrick Maguire*.

But now the curtain is set to fall on the University College London's legendary Bloomsbury Theatre for good – signalling the loss of yet another grassroots West End venue. University chiefs have confirmed that they plan to replace the theatre with teaching space – despite plans for the venue to be renovated this year.

Now the institution is facing a backlash from its undergraduates and alumni, who are threatening to withhold donations and endowments until the Bloomsbury is reopened “in the same or improved capacity as before its closure”.

They accuse UCL, which is already facing a rent strike from over 500 students in several of its halls of residence, of “harming the performing arts in a bid to maximise the profit made on its real estate in Bloomsbury”.

Student performers – who use the theatre for performances 12 weeks in every year – had al-

ready endured several months of logistical nightmares after university chiefs announced last year that the 547-seat venue would shut from January to May this year for refurbishment.

Both student and professional shows were forced to organise



■ **THREAT: The Bloomsbury Theatre**

expensive alternative venues at short notice or even cancel completely.

UCL's annual Ancient Greek play – a blue riband event in the capital's cultural calendar since 1987 and a rite of passage for thousands of school pupils – was this year forced to downsize and relocate to a lecture theatre at the nearby Institute of Education.

In June, planned refurbishment works were found to have impacted on asbestos – forcing the early closure of the theatre, opened in 1968, and the cancellation of a further four university

productions.

Hopes that the theatre would reopen on time have since been dashed by this month's announcement that UCL are to wait until 2018 “at the earliest” before reopening the venue.

The controversial move – which has attracted harsh criticism and a 1,000-strong petition demanding UCL organise alternative venues for members of its vibrant arts community – will deprive many students of their on-campus theatre for the duration of their undergraduate degrees.

Aspiring thespians enrolled at the institution – consistently ranked among the best in the world – had lost their students' union-run Garage Theatre, which was replaced by management with an electricity substation for the Bartlett School of Architecture.

Over 500 people have joined the Bring Back the Bloomsbury campaign group, which planned to march on UCL's Gower Street campus yesterday, Monday, March 7.

In a statement, UCL said the length of the closure had been “difficult to predict... given the complexity of the work needed

to make the site fit for purpose”.

Its Public and Cultural Engagement Director Simon Kane told students that the it was possible that the theatre space could be altered to better suit UCL's needs as part of an “options appraisal”.

Students' worst fears were then confirmed when Mr Kane told a staff-student consultation that the college intends to replace the venue with teaching facilities.

The land-grab comes despite UCL ploughing £240 million into a new campus at Stratford's Olympic Park, which is slated to open in 2018.

Campaigners – who last month staged a mock funeral procession from the mothballed venue to the office of UCL President and Provost Michael Arthur – are now demanding that management reconsider their decision or provide a like-for-like replacement.

Since Professor Arthur took the reins at UCL in 2013, several spaces previously available to students have been taken over and replaced with outsourced cafes.

The consortium of student arts societies behind the protest to UCL have accused the university of withholding the real reasons for the theatre's closure.

Their online petition reads: “We are concerned at the prospect of not having access to a large professional-standard venue for such a long time.

“The Bloomsbury is unlike any other West End venue in that it books performances for short-term engagements, rather than block bookings taking up months and months. Other London theatres take bookings up to years in advance; time UCLU arts societies do not have in this case.”

Signatories have blasted UCL – which has recently ballooned in size to 38,000 students after a merger with the nearby Institute of Education and has pursued controversial corporate partnerships with arms outfit BAE and mining firm BHP Billiton – as a “degree factory” with no regard for the wishes of its community.

One alumnus, Luke Blackett, wrote that the Bloomsbury's closure and “the longstanding lack of support for student arts are attacks that will leave UCLA poorer institution”.

He added: “I worry that if this trend continues we will never again see another Ricky Gervais, Jonathan Ross, Coldplay, Christopher Nolan, or Emma Thomas walk the halls of this university. They all developed the majority of their talents, while here, outside of the lecture theatre.”

Other students and alumni spoke of “formative” experiences they had enjoyed in the theatre and the preparation it had given them for dream careers in the arts.

Reacting to the news on Twitter, comedian Richard Herring – a Bloomsbury regular – said the venue's future “looks very bleak”.

Several jobs will be lost as a result of the permanent closure, and much a smaller studio in the theatre's basement is now the only performance space available in the building.

Writing for you every week, London's most outspoken entrepreneur

Charlie pipes up!



BASED on the outcome of last week's Ofcom report, unless you're BT, everyone in business should love a bit of competition.

Ofcom's report, which instructed BT to open up its Openreach broadband network to rival operators, is a direct consequence of what can happen when you are the only player on the pitch.

Of course, you'll bang in the goals all day long because there's no one to stop you. But when there's no competition you will lose your edge, become complacent and not play to your best.

It looks like that's what's happened at BT because no one, be it consumer or business, has been able to push it into raising its game. As a result, as the many news reports bore out with reams of anecdotal evidence, large areas of the country experience slow internet speeds and, on the whole, generally poor customer service.

That in itself is not a surprise because Openreach is not, in gobbledegook management-speak, “customer facing” – do any of its vans actually display a phone number or, ironically, a web address?

So, to deal with an internet problem customers have to go to providers, which if it's not BT, leaves businesses and the public with three degrees of separation away from those which have the power to install, connect or repair a broadband connection.

Now Ofcom has finally said what most of us knew already about Openreach's monopoly of broadband infrastructure – others can enter the market, which can only improve the service customers receive. And that is the plus-side of competition. It brings out the best in entrepreneurs; it keeps them on their toes and more determined to succeed.

While every now and again there is a totally unique idea that enables an entrepreneur to establish a new market and make it their own, more often than not, the majority of the time business owners take an existing skill or earned experience to start an enterprise in an established industry.

And whether it's an upstart agitator looking to disrupt the market or an established firm battling off the new entrants, the only way to truly hold your own is to do it better than everyone else.

Competition will, of course, have an influence on pricing, but it should also help dictate the level of service offered to customers.

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So if you are the only business in your field it doesn't matter if you offer a “dial-up” level of service.

But as soon as others enter the fray you'll soon find yourselves out on your ear if you don't ramp things up with a business that operates to the equivalent of “superfast broadband” – something that more people across the country might start to experience now Ofcom has detonated a bomb under the UK internet industry.

Views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of this newspaper



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LONDON WIDE

London puts extra focus on cameras to cut crime

BY JACK DIXON

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE number of CCTV cameras on the streets of Hammersmith and Fulham has almost trebled in the last three years, new figures reveal.

A huge increase in council-sponsored surveillance means the borough is now among the UK's most watched areas.

Between 2012 and 2015 more than £2.4 million was spent on CCTV and the number of cameras leaped from 452 to 1,150.

Freedom of Information requests revealed that hundreds more cameras were installed in an effort to curb crime and make the streets safer.

But civil liberties campaigners have called for urgent action to slash spending on CCTV and protect personal freedoms.

Charles Farrier, from the No CCTV campaign, said: "Local councils love spending money on CCTV – it is a vote winner. They do not care about freedoms and liberties."

"Digital technology is becoming more and more intrusive and we are seeing a massive increase in surveillance that is happening invisibly."

"We think there needs to be a proper debate about whether cameras are the right way to go. Councils should stop wasting money on this technology."

While spending on CCTV has declined in most parts of the country, London councils have increased their network of cameras by around 70 per cent, according to a report by the Big Brother Watch group.

It collected data from hundreds of Freedom of Information requests to compare the number of cameras used by local authorities between 2012 and 2015.

Westminster remains the highest-spending council having pumped £7.3 million into anti-crime surveillance – although it has reduced its expenditure from £11.8 million in 2012.

Kensington and Chelsea council spent just over £900,000 on a small network of 58 cameras.

But Hammersmith and Fulham now has the second highest number of cameras in the country after spending more than £2.4 million expanding its network.

The council installs and maintains town centre cameras and those used on housing estates.

Its CCTV unit, based at Hammersmith Town Hall, was recognised by the Met Police last year after helping officers



■ **VIEWS:** Councillor Wesley Harcourt, top, backs the use of CCTV cameras while Daniel Nesbitt of Big Brother Watch argues against their over-use

with around 30 arrests a month.

Councillor Wesley Harcourt, the council's cabinet member for residents' services, said

CCTV played an important part in protecting people from crime.

"We have a zero tolerance approach to crime and our award-winning CCTV team do a fantastic job of keeping Hammersmith and Fulham residents safe," he said.

"Cameras installed over recent years have been in response to close local consultation with residents and the police who identify locations suffering from crime."

"In addition to our CCTV network we are funding a record 44 police officers to work with residents and tackle crime."

The Big Brother Watch report – 'Are They Still Watching?' – found that CCTV spending had dropped by almost half across the country, largely due to budget cuts.

However, the number of cameras on the streets of London rose by 71.8 per cent – from 8,105 to 13,924.

The growing network of cameras is being used to keep an eye on pubs, clubs and bars, as well as monitoring the flow of people and traffic.

Big Brother Watch did not call for a shut down of CCTV operations but suggested placing temporary cameras in problem areas for a short period of time until crime issues were resolved.

Daniel Nesbitt, research director at Big Brother Watch, said councils should be more open about the reasons why cameras were installed and how much it would cost.

"Once this kind of information is released on a regular basis it will be possible for citizens to decide for themselves whether or not the cameras are actually helping in their area," he said.

"This kind of transparency will become even more important as authorities begin to introduce new and potentially more invasive technology, such as facial recognition software and 3D cameras."

A spokesman for the Met Police said more than 200 officers had been trained as 'super recognisers' to work with neighbourhood teams and intelligence units to identify suspects caught on CCTV.

"CCTV is a vital forensic tool and is important in the fight against crime," the spokesman said.

"While DNA or fingerprints will show the suspect being at the scene, CCTV will show the crime happening. It helps us find other evidence or witnesses and helps the courts when assessing the sentence."

"Whilst not every crime is captured on CCTV, the MPS is committed to capitalising on those that are by using dedicated support units, utilising 'super recognisers' and maximising our IT resources."



■ **WATCH OUT:** London is expanding safety surveillance while elsewhere CCTV is being cut back

Have your say

on proposals for a new dedicated cycle lane at Hammersmith gyratory

Proposals include:

- Separating cyclists and traffic with a segregated two-way cycle track on the north side of Hammersmith gyratory to help improve safety for cyclists
- Separate traffic signals for cyclists and motor vehicles, allowing cyclists to move ahead of vehicles
- Extend the eastbound two-way cycle track on King Street allowing cyclists to reach the gyratory on a more direct route
- Provide a two-way section of cycle track on Queen Caroline Street allowing cyclist's easy access to Black's Road and Hammersmith Bridge Road
- Increase the size of the island at the junction of Hammersmith Broadway and Butterwick to help improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians.

These proposals are primarily intended to improve safety for cyclists.

You can have your say and view our detailed proposals at tfl.gov.uk/hammersmith-gyratory. Details of our drop-in sessions can also be found on the website.

The consultation closes 15 March 2016.



Blast from the past to go under the hammer

THE last new gun that famous Soho firearms manufacturer John Wilkes built will go under the hammer next month.

The piece, which is in a new and unfired condition, having

been displayed in Wilkes' premises at 79 Beak Street, London W1 for a number of years prior to the company's closure in 2003, will be offered in Gavin Gardiner Ltd's sale of

modern and vintage sporting guns and rifles, which takes place on Wednesday, April 13, at Sotheby's auction house in New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA.

MAYOR OF LONDON

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LONDON WIDE



■ **ART AND SOUL:** Five year old Erin McConnon from Chepstow House School with her picture at the Saatchi Gallery exhibition

Children's art on show

PUPILS at independent London schools were among those given a unique opportunity to showcase their artwork at the highly prestigious Saatchi Gallery.

The inaugural Alpha Plus Group Art Exhibition, at the gallery in Duke of York Square, King's Road, saw the coming together of all the group's independent schools to showcase gifted and talented work from sculpture to photography.

Art leaders across ten of the Alpha Plus schools across the country worked closely together on the landmark project, which saw 40 pieces of artwork, four from each school, taking pride of place at the inspiring Saatchi Gallery.

The exhibition was unveiled by Alpha Plus chief executive Julian Drinkall. Also key to the proceedings was Oliver Meyer, head of art at Wetherby Senior School, who was integral to devising and implementing the project.

Mr Drinkall said: "The Saatchi Gallery is internationally renowned for showcasing the very best in contemporary art, and we were thrilled with the opportunity presented. There was a terrific buzz at the opening ceremony and private viewing event.

"The standard of the work produced by the pupils is excellent and surpassed all expectations. The exhibiting children will undoubtedly derive much confidence from having their work take pride of place in such a highly regarded venue."

Mr Meyer added: "The pupils really rose to the challenge and thoroughly enjoyed using their creativity to the full to create exceptional pieces of artwork. The standard was extremely high and it was very difficult to narrow the exhibiting pieces down to only four per school."



■ **CREATIVE:** Seven-year-old Sophia Winterton from Chepstow House School with her image at the Saatchi Gallery exhibition



■ **ART AND SOUL:** Oliver Meyer, head of art at Wetherby Senior, with Julian Drinkall, chief executive of the Alpha Plus Group

Khan's TV fee goes to charity

LABOUR'S London mayoral candidate Sadiq Khan earned £1,500 for appearing on BBC's *Have I Got News For You* but donated the money to charity, his office said as it published details of his earnings and tax contributions.

The figures released by Mr Khan's office show he has been paid a total of £3,250 for media appearances since 2005 and declared no other income apart from his roles as an MP, government minister and councillor.

The information was published after Mr Khan's Tory rival Zac Goldsmith revealed he made £10 million from trusts, asset sales and salary over the past five years – and paid more than £4.5 million in tax.

Mr Khan's release showed that in 2014/15 he had an income of £61,401 as Tooting's MP, excluding pension contributions, and received £1,500 for his appearance on *Have I Got News For You*.

He paid £16,557.40 in income tax and £4,168.56 in national insurance contributions (NICs).

A statement on his website said: "The 2014/15 media appearance fee was for Sadiq appearing on *Have I Got News For You*.

"Sadiq donated the full £1,500 fee direct to charity: the *Evening Standard's* Dispossessed Fund. However, as this was his choice, he has to declare this as income in order to pay the tax due."

The information was prepared by Mr Khan's personal chartered accountant from the returns submitted to HMRC.

A moment of Madness

THE enduringly popular Madness are set to headline their own festival this summer after announcing a one-day spectacular in London.

The group will take to the stage on August Bank Holiday in the event titled House of Common.

They will head to Clapham Common to put on a show alongside 20 other hand-picked, like-minded bands and DJs. The outdoor event will feature a line up specifically curated by the band, ending with an exclusive headline performance from Madness themselves.

Announcing the show, Madness said: "We are honoured and privileged that London has found us a place where for one day every year we can have our very own festival, we hereby name that day House of Common. See you in Clapham Madheads. For the love of the common people."

Festival fun

THE Find Your London festival celebrates London's outdoor spaces, from gardens to parks, high streets to marketplaces.

This 11-day festival, from March 18 to 28, features more than 100 varied events across London. To find out what's on offer, visit the website london.gov.uk

Historic opportunity for us to put women plaque where they belong

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

FAMOUS women are being poorly represented by London's blue plaques network, it was claimed this week.

Only one in eight of the capital's blue plaques – which mark the homes and workplaces of key figures from history – honour women, English Heritage claimed. The organisation is now calling for more female nominations.

Suffragette leader Emmeline Pankhurst, Jamaican nurse Mary Seacole and novelist Virginia Woolf are among the women who have been honoured with a blue plaque here in London since the scheme began 150 years ago.



■ **WONDER WALL:** London's salute to Emmeline Pankhurst

But just 13 per cent of the 902 plaques put up across London are for notable female figures, something English Heritage, which manages the scheme, wants to amend.

The blue plaque scheme began in 1866, with the first of the famous markers – recognis-

ing Lord Byron – going up a year later, but it was a decade before the first woman was honoured, the actress Sarah Siddons in 1876, whose plaque was lost during demolition work in 1905.

The second plaque was put up in 1885 to novelist and playwright Fanny Burney and still survives.

Since English Heritage took over the scheme in 1986, more than 70 plaques to leading female figures have been added – 61 per cent of the total number honouring women. They include memorials to computing pioneer Ada, Countess of Lovelace, aviator Amy Johnson, the first woman to fly solo from England to Australia, singer Gracie Fields and the co-discoverer of DNA, Rosalind Franklin.

The charity is calling on the public to nominate more notable women from history for London blue plaques.

The call comes as a survey for English Heritage found that four out of 10 people (40 per cent) thought women had a lesser impact on history than men – although a greater proportion (55 per cent) thought they had the same impact as men.

Anna Eavis, curatorial director for English Heritage, said: "In their own modest way, blue plaques remind us of the people who have made significant contributions to history.

"The plaques also tell us a lot about who we, as a society, consider worthy of recognition. "It's only relatively recently that the role of women in history has been acknowledged

and the blue plaques scheme partly reflects this historic blindness.

"We want to see more notable women from the past celebrated with blue plaques. Our scheme relies entirely on public nominations so we're calling on people to get in touch and tell us who they think deserves a plaque."

To qualify for a blue plaque, figures from history must be regarded as eminent, with achievements that made a significant impact or deserve national recognition, they should have been dead for 20 years and have lived in London for a significant period in time or importance in their lives.

The building where they lived or worked must also still be standing and must not have a significantly altered exterior.

LONDON WIDE

£730,000 fund encourages local projects to prosper in crowdfunding

BY LWN REPORTER

editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A NEW £730,000 scheme to support London community projects has been unveiled.

London mayor Boris Johnson announced the funding package as part of what he is describing as "a world-leading civic crowdfunding initiative".

Crowdfunding allows anyone to propose an idea and for members of the public to fund it. If enough people pledge just a small amount, an idea can quickly become reality.

The mayor's partnership with Spacehive – the world's first crowdfunding website dedicated to civic projects – means community organisations have the chance to pitch an idea that benefits their local community and attract financial pledges from the members of the public and the mayor.

Mr Johnson will pledge up to £20,000 towards the best crowdfunding campaigns that can demonstrate the most local enthusiasm.

Projects could help to make a High Street a better place to visit or do business in, improve or establish a local market, give a new lease of life to a forgotten local space or empty building, improve access to healthy and affordable food or create a new cultural feature that attracts people to the area.

Ideas need to be crowdfund-

ing on the mayor's Spacehive page by May 1 to be considered for a pledge, but it is recommended that projects are posted as early as possible to allow for public awareness, debate and refinement before a full campaign begins. A series of workshops for groups interested in putting forward ideas will be held in London throughout March.

Mr Johnson, said: "This is a unique opportunity to empower Londoners to come together and make a huge difference in



■ **CHALLENGE:** London mayor Boris Johnson

their community by pitching great ideas that matter to them. I look forward to seeing a whole raft of innovative solutions to local issues that will help to make the city an even better place to live, visit and work in."

The mayor has already delivered two successful rounds of crowdfunding through his High

Street Fund, investing a total of £600,000 in 37 projects. In the last round, the mayor backed 20 schemes with £285,000 worth of pledges. These were matched by more than £430,000 worth of pledges from the crowd, with over 2,200 backers from local Londoners to businesses.

The latest round of civic crowdfunding was launched last week by Daniel Moylan, Chairman of the Mayor's Design Advisory Group and London Enterprise Panel (LEP) SME Working Group member at the PEER Gallery in Hoxton. The mayor has pledged £19,000 towards the gallery's plans to replace its shopfront after the project raised £25,000 from 187 backers through Spacehive.

Other successful civic crowdfunding campaigns run through the mayor and Spacehive include:

■ **Peckham Coal Line in Southwark** – The mayor has pledged £10,000 towards the group's target of £66,000 in order to transform disused coal sidings on the railway line between Queens Road Peckham and Peckham Rye station into a 1km stretch of elevated green space. The campaign attracted 928 backers, including Southwark Council and Sustrans, bringing the wider community together from businesses to local people.

■ **Good Food Catford in Lewisham** – The mayor has pledged £14,000 towards the group's target of £33,000 in order to bring a vacant high street shop back into use as a community grocery store, selling affordable local and surplus vegetables grown in community gardens and allotments as well as providing workshops, training and advice on healthy eating. The campaign attracted 344 backers.

Mr Moylan said: "Civic crowdfunding has the power to transform the way City Hall and Londoners come together to shape the places in which we all live, work and play. Using Spacehive for this pilot has allowed us to combine our grants with funds from individuals, businesses and organisations, meaning we can make more great projects happen faster, tapping into the wealth of creativity and enthusiasm within communities across the city."

Chris Gourlay, founder of Spacehive, said: "A community coming together around a successful campaign is incredibly powerful. You will meet new people, build new relationships and find the skills to get things done that you never thought possible. A pledge from the mayor will really help you on your way and there are many more people and companies who will want to be a part of a great idea."

To date, over £575,000 has been pledged to 37 local projects. This represents a pioneering new relationship between City Hall and Londoners that realises the creativity and enterprise of local communities and businesses.

For instructions to submit your idea and to view previous examples, visit: spacehive.com/Initiatives/mayoroflondon



■ **GREEN FOR GO:** How the old Peckham Coal Line will be transformed into attractive green space

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MAYOR OF LONDON

How the programme works

■ The programme is part of the London Enterprise Panel's £20million London Regeneration Fund, which was launched by the mayor following a successful bid to government in January 2015 as part of the LEP's Growth Deal. The fund gives local authorities, traders' associations, workspace providers, and community groups the chance to come forward with exciting proposals that will help new and traditional places of work thrive in a rapidly changing city.

■ In February 2016, the programme was recognised at the World Government Summit as one of the top 11 innovations in global government thinking. The programme is a four-stage pilot to test how City Hall utilise new technology in a positive way to promote transparent and participatory democracy for Londoners.

■ Over his two terms, the mayor's dedicated regeneration funds have invested £189million and levered in about £131.5million in match funding that has helped more than 85 high streets adapt to changing circumstances and thrive. This funding has also seen almost 1,000 shopfronts improved, 1,577 jobs created, and training and support received by over 3,000 businesses and young people.

■ *Spacehive.com* launched in 2012 and is the world's first crowdfunding platform for civic projects. The London based start-up has successfully funded 157 projects across the UK worth £4.7 million. Over 700 projects are currently in development and Spacehive is working in partnership with cities across the UK including Manchester, Cardiff, Hull as well as 15 London boroughs, and the Mayor of London.

LONDON WIDE

Pianist helps homeless centre to tune of £18,000

BY LWN REPORTER

editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

KIND-HEARTED theatregoers have raised thousands of pounds for a homeless hostel in Westminster after American concert pianist Mona Golabek made an impassioned appeal to audiences at the end of her one-woman show in the capital.

The American performer's very public appeal on behalf of the Cardinal Hume Centre, which is based in Arneway Street, off Horseferry Road, helped to generate more than £18,000 during her sell-out

five-week run at the St James Theatre.

Ms Golabek's show, called *The Pianist of Willesden Lane*, was inspired by the true story of her mother, who was one of many thousands of young Jewish children who fled Nazi persecution in the late 1930s just before the outbreak of the Second World War.

Ms Golabek's mother arrived in London on the so-called Kindertransport, which was responsible for bringing many thousands of Jewish youngsters to safety as the Nazis tightened their grip on mainland Europe.

The Cardinal Hume Centre, which will benefit from the funding boost, works with homeless young people and families with housing problems. It was founded by Cardinal Basil Hume in 1986, to give people access to the skills and support needed to overcome poverty and homelessness.

The centre focuses on four areas of need: employment, housing, education and skills, and legal status. Every person who comes to the centre has different needs. It says: "We offer a holistic serv-

ice, all on one site, that reflects the individual so that people can make informed choices about their future."

The centre welcomes people from all backgrounds in line with Cardinal Hume's founding ethos of offering sanctuary.

Ms Golabek, whose mother Lisa Jura fled her native Vienna in 1938 and spent the war years in a hostel in Willesden Lane with other young refugees while pursuing her dream of becoming a concert pianist, ended every show by telling the audience about the work the centre does.

She said it had been a great privilege to perform at the St James Theatre and share the story of her mother. She said the performances had been made even more meaningful by giving her the opportunity to tell the audience about the Cardinal Hume Centre, a centre like where her mother, "as a young frightened teenage refugee", found herself upon arriving in London prior to the start of the Second World War.

She told audiences: "I am proud to speak about this centre to the world, a place that provides so much precious help... Now more than ever, we must never forget our humanity, and the Cardinal Hume Centre is such a shining example of that humanity."

Ms Golabek has appeared at the Hollywood Bowl, the Kennedy Center and the Royal Festival Hall alongside major orchestras worldwide. A Grammy nominee,

she has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Avery Fisher Prize and the People's Award of the International Chopin Competition and has been the subject of several PBS television documentaries.

Ms Golabek's mother won a place at the Royal Academy of Music after seeing a notice in the *Evening Standard* before emigrating to Los Angeles where she raised her family.



■ APPEAL: Musician Mona Golabek

Fulham FC welcomes Bristol City to Craven Cottage in the Sky Bet Championship on Saturday 12th March, kick-off 3pm



This fixture is the Club's annual Primary Schools' Day with an exclusive special ticket offer priced at just £15 for adults and £5 for juniors, a saving of £15 on an adult ticket and £10 on juniors. Adults will also have the chance to obtain a free adult ticket for every 10 junior tickets purchased for the match.

To qualify for this special price, teachers or parents will need to complete a form which can be found online at: www.fulhamfc.com/primaryschoolsday.

Club mascot Billy the Badger will be on Stevenage Road pre-match handing out foam fingers to junior supporters in attendance alongside a balloon modeller.

Last year almost 1,000 primary school pupils and teachers attended the match and this year the crowd is expected to be bigger and better. The school bringing the highest number of attendees to the match will win a Training Ground Experience and representatives from the school will be invited on to the pitch at half-time to be presented with a Fulham gift.

Fulham FC Captain, Scott Parker said, "Primary Schools' Day is brilliant opportunity for schools in our local communities to enjoy an afternoon out at Craven Cottage. Our junior supporters help create a wonderful atmosphere and it's great to see so many young fans and their families at our matches. We'll look forward to welcoming the winning school to the Training Ground for an unforgettable experience."

For more information on Primary Schools' Day please visit:

www.fulhamfc.com/primaryschoolsday

Tickets for Fulham FC v Bristol City are now on general sale. To purchase match tickets, call the Fulham Ticket Office on: 08432 081 234 or online at: www.fulhamfc.com/tickets



■ SINGER Joss Stone will headline a Barnardo's fundraising concert at London's iconic Roundhouse in May to help transform the lives of the UK's most vulnerable children and mark the charity's 150th anniversary. Stone's performance will feature guest appearances from friends who have influenced her career. The event will be her first and only headline performance in the UK in 2016 as she is currently performing on a world tour. Stone said: 'I'm delighted to be taking part in Barnardo's 150th anniversary concert and helping to raise awareness of the amazing work the charity does. I hope that the evening will help Barnardo's continue its great work and help those who are in desperate need of care and support.' *Barnardo's Presents: Joss Stone and Friends*, will take place on Sunday, May 15. Doors open at 7pm. To buy tickets visit www.barnardos.org.uk/presents

Crossing safety delay 'shameful'

THE Liberal Democrat candidate to be the next Mayor of London has challenged Boris Johnson over pedestrian crossings which present a danger to the blind and partially-sighted.

London Assembly member Caroline Pidgeon has been campaigning for years for the Mayor's Office and Transport for London to make all crossings in the capital safer to cross.

In guidance published by the Department of Transport in 1995 it was clearly stated that pedestrian crossings should either have an audible sound and/or a rotating cone to assist blind and partially sighted people to safely cross the road.

But 11 unsafe crossings still remain and Mr Johnson has now admitted that they will remain a danger for at least another year – which Ms Pidgeon says is "shameful".

"Transport for London has been incredibly slow in ensuring this guidance is fully implemented, it was always claimed that the guidance would finally be implemented at all pedestrian crossings by March 2016," said a spokesman for Ms Pidgeon.

"But it now turns out that this pledge made by Boris Johnson will not be met and it might be another year before every pedestrian crossing finally meets this basic safety standard."

Ms Pidgeon said: "The mayor, who is chair of Transport for London, should have ensured many years ago that national safety standards for pedestrian crossings were met for every pedestrian crossing that TfL is responsible for."

"It is quite frankly shameful that there any pedestrian cross-

ings in London which still don't have basic safety features for blind and partially sighted people 21 years after the national guidance was first published."

In response to questioning by Ms Pidgeon, Mr Johnson said: "The 11 remaining locations listed are due to be upgraded as part of capital improvement schemes."

"At this point it is not possible to specify the exact date at each location as the scheduling of works are dependent upon each borough's programme. However, these sites are scheduled to be compliant by the end of March 2017."

Among the pedestrian crossings singled out for concern are these in Westminster: New Bond Street, Conduit Street, Bruton Street, Davies Street and Brook Street.

LONDON WIDE

Building network of community groups

BEFORE I talk about the insightful discussions we have been having with member organisations, I wanted to take the opportunity to pay our respects to Anthony Perry who sadly passed away recently.

For those who don't know him, Anthony was the first chief executive of Westway Trust (then known as the North Kensington Amenity Trust). He did so much for the Westway community. He promoted carnival by giving space and funding support to the Carnival Pioneers, developed Acklam Hall and started the development of the sports centre. His legacy in this part of London is truly heartfelt and his spirit will undoubtedly live on for many years here.

The Trust is 45 years old this year and we will celebrate this milestone later in the year. We plan to honour Anthony's memory at this time.

Anthony was probably most well-known for his deep relationships with local people and groups. He recognised the importance of understanding community needs when developing proposals for the land. We want to build on his approach and develop stronger relationships with people locally. To that end, over the past few weeks I have been meeting with small groups of Westway Trust's member organisations for informal discussions about



UNDER THE WESTWAY

Angela McConville, Westway Trust Chief Executive, reflects on recent discussions with other community organisations

our plans for the future and to get their ideas how new spaces we're creating under the Westway might be used.

Our member organisations, made up of charities, residents' associations and other community groups, are a key part of how Westway Trust is governed and how we ensure strong links to the community. Three of the twelve places on our board are reserved for trustees elected by our member organisations and they have a voting role at our annual general meeting. I've also been reminded by these meetings that our member organisations are a vibrant and varied group that represent a huge cross-section of people. From faith groups to mental health charities and arts organisations to older people's

groups they bring us into contact with many different perspectives. I'd met most of these organisations already but it has been energising to be able to talk to them at such length and to share ideas and ambitions.

There was an almost universal agreement with the principles of our strategy for the future, built on four pillars of enterprise and economic vitality; health and wellbeing; arts, heritage and culture; and environmental improvements. It was wonderful to hear one organisation in particular relating their story of how they are working with us in all four areas. It was also clear that as part of our ongoing engagement with the community we need to work harder to share this vision with more of the

community more often and I've asked my team to look at ways that we can do that in the coming months and years, including using some of the great ideas we've been given in recent months.

We also discussed our progress in revising ideas for the part of the Westway estate which sits either side of Portobello Road. Again, there was agreement that the status quo was not an option and about the motivations for the proposals – to support a thriving market and vibrant independent retailers, to create more space for arts, culture and community activity, to open up and improve the public and green spaces and to improve the sustainability of the estate. It

was great to start getting some ideas for how we might use the new spaces with suggestions made for an outdoor performance space; multi-cultural, multi-purpose arts buildings; a volunteer force involved in greening projects at Portobello Green; affordable exhibition space; and arts exchanges with other areas.

We will add these to the many other ideas we receive as we ask similar questions to those who live close to the Westway in the weeks ahead. But it's clear that local needs are varied and flexibility is key, not just to adapt for current uses but also to changes in the future.

It's been clear that far from just an opportunity to inform the

work of Westway Trust that our member organisations have valued a chance to meet and talk with other community groups in the area. I think the Trust can play a facilitatory role as a network for local community work and we'll be building on that idea to create more ways for groups to meet and share ideas in the future.

Our membership already includes more than fifty local organisations but that is only a fraction of those around the Westway. We want to build a great coalition of community-focused local organisations so I urge any local leaders reading this to become a Westway Trust member and help us to plan for the future.



■ GREEN PARTY: Volunteer gardeners at the St Charles Community Garden

Pub crawl a chance for sober reflection

LOVERS of the London pub trade's heritage can join historian Geoff Brandwood for a tour of three varied public houses on Monday, March 14, starting at 6.30pm.

This informative 'pub crawl' turns the spotlight on inns with interesting historic interiors, starting at the Lamb in Bloomsbury, sited in a Georgian build-

ing and refitted by the Victorians. The party will then walk through the area's fine early Georgian streets to a 1930s rebuilt pub, the Duke in Roger Street. You will end at one of the great pubs of the 1920s, the Citty of Yorke in High Holborn, where the idea of a great baronial hall was recreated by the wine merchants, Henekeys.

The walk will aim to explain something of the development of the London pub and how it has changed.

Mr Brandwood is an architectural historian with a special interest in historic pubs on which he has published extensively with the support of English Heritage and the Campaign for Real Ale.



How will you be remembered?

March is your chance to leave a lasting legacy by including a gift in your Will to one or more of the charities sponsoring Free Wills Month.

Free Wills Month enables people aged 55 and over to make or update their Will for free. This offers you peace of mind as you provide for loved ones.

It also provides an opportunity to do something truly memorable by contributing to the work of one or more great causes. **Appointments are limited, so don't delay.**

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www.freewillsmoth.org.uk

The campaign pays for simple Wills. If your Will is complex, you can pay the solicitor for extra advice. There is no obligation to include a gift to any of the charities. The campaign is intended for those aged 55 and over.

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ageUK Love later life

THE SALVATION ARMY GUIDE DOGS

Lifeboats

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION British Heart Foundation

LONDON WIDE

Boris orders more buses at the double

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDON Mayor Boris Johnson was in Northern Ireland this week confirming an order with Wrightbus for another 195 of the iconic New Routemaster buses.

Mr Johnson's spokesman said: "Billions of pounds are invested by Transport for London on products and services from businesses outside the capital every year – and the deal with Wrightbus will safeguard 300 manufacturing jobs, as well as support a supply chain of companies across the United Kingdom."

The mayor shook hands on the latest order during a visit to the Wrightbus chassis plant that was created as a direct result of orders for the distinctive London buses. He toured the factory floor and met the team building the iconic red people carriers.

The mayor's team said: "Transport for London has a productive relationship with businesses in Northern Ireland and in 2015 they spent £93million with suppliers based there."

Mr Johnson said: "I am absolutely delighted to be able to confirm a further order for these superb buses. They are a masterpiece of British engineering and design, and they prove that we are capable of building a bus in the UK with cutting edge technology that simultaneously delivers jobs and growth around the country."

The production of 1,000 New Routemaster buses in Northern Ireland by the family-owned Wrightbus Group – which employs 2,000 local people – has sustained 300 jobs, created 100 brand new jobs and supported 120 apprenticeships. This week's order was made at a reduced rate of £319,000 per bus, which is comparable to the cost of a standard hybrid bus.

Welcoming the deal, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, the Rt Hon Theresa Villiers MP said: "This is brilliant news for Ballymena-based Wrightbus and all the Northern Ireland firms in the supply chain who stand to gain from this significant investment by TfL."

"I have been deeply committed over recent months to helping get this over the line for Northern Ireland so I am particularly pleased with this deal. These iconic buses represent a powerful link between Northern Ireland and Greater London, as well as with all the other UK firms whose expertise contributes to the outstanding qualities of this world class vehicle."

The buses have two staircases and three sets of doors allowing large numbers of passengers to board and alight and will be supplied with opening windows on the upper and lower decks following feedback from passengers.

The buses boast the latest Euro 6 engines and will increase the number of hybrid buses in the capital to 1,900 – representing 20 per cent of the overall fleet – when they enter service in summer 2017.

As well as the manufacture of New Routemaster chassis and superstructures in Northern Ireland, a number of components for New Routemaster buses are made by companies from around the UK; including engines from Darlington, seats from Telford, seat moquettes from Huddersfield, wheelchair ramps from Hoddesdon and flooring from Liskeard.

TfL figures indicate that more than 60 per cent of TfL's spending through its supply chain going to firms outside of London.

The first 800 New Routemaster buses will be in passenger service by July 2016, the additional 195 buses will be delivered by summer 2017.



■ RED FOR GO: London Mayor Boris Johnson has shaken hands on a further order of the iconic New Routemaster bus for the capital's commuters

Expert view on how we build homes

DEVELOPMENT expert Nicholas Boys Smith, the founding director of Create Streets, is to set out the group's research into links between built form and popularity, wellbeing, density and value – as well as making the case for a more predictable, more popular development model.

Mr Boys Smith has lectured on Create Street's findings at various universities and presented them in a wide range of speeches and media. He is a commissioner at Historic England and a Research Fellow at the University of Buckingham. An occasional columnist on *Building* magazine, he has been described by the *Architects' Journal* as a leading figure on issues to do with the built environment.

Create Streets is a social enterprise that encourages the creation of more urban homes in conventional, terraced streets rather than complex multi-storey buildings as well as greater, constructive, public influence on the planning and development system. They do this through research, arguing for policy change, and consulting to councils, developers, communities and landowners. According to Sir Simon Jenkins, former Chair of the National Trust, "Create Streets speaks London's language."

Create Streets' core argument is that more conventional development would be more popular, thus reducing resistance to new development; is probably better correlated with good wellbeing outcomes; can easily provide the density we need to solve the housing crisis; and is actually a better long-term investment.

Mr Boys Smith's talk takes place at The Gallery, 75 Cowcross Street, Farringdon, on May, starting at 6.30pm. Visit www.londonsociety.org.uk for more details.

Cheers! Pilot pub re-opens

THE Pilot pub in Chiswick has re-opened following an extensive refurbishment.

Owners Fuller's, whose brewery is nearby, said that "under the watchful eyes of manager Harriet Teague", the refurbishment of the hostelry in Wellesley Road "has seen the pub retain its traditional pub feel with a few modern touches, creating a light and airy space".

Fuller's said: "The new menu will continue to boast fresh, home-made food, including delicious seasonal dishes, with ingredients from local suppliers. The bar is stocked with an exciting array of beers, including Fuller's new red ale, Montana Red, alongside Frontier craft lager and London Pride.

"The vast array of spirits boasts over 15 varieties of gin, including unique infusions in conjunction with fellow Chiswick resident Sipsmith. This, together, with an extensive wine list and soft drinks, means there is a beverage for everyone."

Adam Sykes, operations manager, said: "The Pilot is a great pub and this refurbishment has breathed new life into this beautiful period building. We're looking forward to welcoming customers to the new look pub over the coming weeks."

London prepares to celebrate orchestra anniversary

THE Royal Philharmonic Orchestra is celebrating its 70th birthday this year with a host of special events which will culminate in a gala concert at the Royal Albert Hall in September.

For its platinum year the orchestra, which has been at the forefront of music making both within the UK and on the international orchestral scene, will visit both the US and Europe as part of the commemorative programme of events in celebration of the momentous anniversary.

The Royal Philharmonic has, over the past decade extended

its reach to fourteen UK residencies; performing more concerts and to a wider breadth of audiences than any other orchestra in the country.

Managing director Ian Mackay says: "The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra is renowned the world over for its versatility and ability to adapt to changing styles of music making and presentation."

Following a 16-concert tour of the US, Vasily Petrenko will debut with the orchestra to conduct Mahler's magnificent Symphony No.2, *Resurrection*, at the Royal Albert Hall on March 22.



■ ANNIVERSARY YEAR: The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Other significant events include a tour of Spain and the second Pinchas Zukerman Festival, to be held at the orchestra's home, London's Cadogan Hall. NASA will then play a part as the RPO performs *The Planets – An HD Odyssey*

across the UK at seven venues, including the Royal Albert Hall.

This exciting multi-media event features the latest astounding high-definition images beamed back by Voyager and the Mars Rover.

In the week of the orchestra's founding date, on September 19, the RPO will host its 70th anniversary gala concert at the Royal Albert Hall, featuring prestigious artists Martha Argerich, Charles Dutoit and Pinchas Zukerman.

This promises to be a thrilling event in a venue which has played an integral role in the orchestra's success.

Mr Mackay says: "The RPO enters its eighth decade at the very forefront of the UK's orchestral scene confident that it has the skill, resource and determination to meet the challenges ahead."

LONDON WIDE



■ **FIT FOR PURPOSE:** Kimberley Salt is running the London Marathon to raise funds for Diabetes UK

Turkish takeaway takes the top prize

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDON’S Ambience, a homely and family run restaurant serving Turkish-style kebabs in trendy Wimbledon, has bagged top spot – and a national TV campaign – in a contest to find the ten best takeaway restaurants in Britain.

The awards, run by online food ordering platform *hungryhouse.co.uk*, singled out Ambience, run by Tanser Ozdemir, for the top prize.

Ambience managed to beat off stiff competition, thanks to their consistent five-star ratings, rave reviews and the site’s highest return rate over the last 12 months. Mr Ozdemir said:

“We’ve worked hard to meet the requirements of the contest and we’re ecstatic to be named the UK’s number one for 2016. To win this level of exposure for our restaurant is something we can only dream of and we can’t wait to welcome more people down.”

The success of Ambience is thanks to recipes handed down throughout the years by the close-knit family, who have a passion for sharing the food they know and love with others. Their enthusiasm has encouraged many residents of south west London to bring the taste of Turkish into their living rooms.

Food has always played a large part in owner Mr Ozdemir’s life.

He said: “I was always the favourite friend at school, with

all my friends wanting to come round and have mum’s food. We had food falling off the table and it would be recipes they weren’t used to – they could never get enough.”

Leeds haunt Thai Sabai took second place, boasting recipes brought over directly from Southeast Asia by head chef Jury, while Cafe Zecchino in Glasgow landed third place.

To crown the winners *hungryhouse* listened to the public and what they have been enjoying over the last twelve months, as opposed to crown the winning restaurants through a panel of judges.

Other London takeaways to feature in the top ten were Good Earth, Chinese (Chelsea); Pesantissimo, Italian (Chalk Farm) and Saki, Sushi (Queens Park, London).

Kimberley’s race mission

A WOMAN from Maida Vale will tackle the London Marathon to raise funds to support the work of Diabetes UK – and in solidarity with her partner who has diabetes.

The London Marathon, on April 24, will see dozens of Team Diabetes UK runners take to the streets to run the 26.2-mile course.

Kimberley Salt, aged 30, is taking on the big race because her partner Igor has type one diabetes and she witnesses his daily battle with the condition. She says she wants to raise funds for Diabetes UK because of its continued dedication towards lifesaving research.

Kimberley has been training hard for the event and said: “I have been with my partner for three years and in that time I have watched his daily battle with type one diabetes. I can’t imagine my life without him and know it is because of charities like Diabetes UK that he is still here today and is able to live a relatively normal life.

“Igor has fond memories of attending a ‘diabetes camp’ when he was a child and speaks with such admiration about how he was educated in managing his diabetes and was able to meet other children with the same condition. He left the camp less scared that his diabetes wouldn’t stand in his way.

“It is so important that those sorts of resources are kept available. Providing education to children for conditions such as diabetes enables them to find the courage and belief that it won’t rule their lives. I am fit and healthy and I am very lucky that I have no ailments. I dream of a world where my partner and others like him can enjoy the world diabetes-free.”

Claire Lubbock, Diabetes

UK fundraising manager, said: “The London Marathon is an amazing event to be a part of. The months of training and dedication from Kimberley will be turned in April into a one-of-a-kind way to see London at its best. Together with the rest of Team Diabetes UK they will raise vital funds to help people living with diabetes.

“Every penny raised will help us to support the 3.5 million people diagnosed with diabetes in the UK so please give gener-

ously to back Kimberley and support her amazing effort.”

If you have a place in the London Marathon but haven’t selected a charity yet, email events.fundraising@diabetes.org.uk

To find out more about signing up to future fundraising events for Diabetes UK, visit www.diabetes.org.uk/London-Marathon or call the events fundraising team on 0345 123 2399. To sponsor Kimberley visit www.justgiving.com/KIMBERLEY-SALT



■ **RACE DATE:** Kimberley Salt is to run the London Marathon

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ROYAL LONDON

Red carpet for our war heroes

A SEA of red remembrance will meet The Queen when she attends this year's Chelsea Flower Show as it marks Her Majesty's 90th birthday with one of the most spectacular exhibits in its history, writes Geoff Baker.

The centrepiece of the show at the Royal Chelsea Hospital will be a magnificent display of tens of thousands of red poppies, knitted and crocheted by a grassroots community movement started by two Australian women in memory of their fathers who fought in the Second World War.

Initially, Margaret Knight and Lynn Berry wanted to crochet 120 poppies to lay at a war memorial in Melbourne to mark the centenary of Anzac Day in 2015. But the idea captured the hearts and enthusiasm of the public and working with award-winning landscape designer Philip Johnson, a tremendous display of more than 300,000 poppies was laid down in Federation Square.

Now there are even more poppies and they will now be installed by Johnson's team on the walkway to the flower show as Chelsea pulls the stops out to make The Queen's 52nd visit to the show the most dazzling of



■ **TIDE OF EMOTION:** An artist's impression of how the display of knitted and crocheted poppies will look

her lifetime, with the creation of a huge floral arch at the Bullring entrance, an exhibition of photographs of Her Majesty's many visits and numerous other ex-

hibits with the royal birthday theme.

But the star of the show is expected to be the woollen poppies, which follow the installations of

the Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red ceramic poppies which moved the nation and the world when they were created for the display at the Tower of London in 2014.

"We are working at a feverish pace to make sure the installation is perfect for its unveiling to the world in May. I feel incredibly privileged to be doing this," said Lynn Berry. "There are so many elements to the project. There is of course the poppy, or many thousands of poppies, supplied by a remarkable community aged from two to 102 from many different cultures, interest groups, community groups, schools, libraries, retirement villages and so on.

"We could have stopped after Anzac Day. We achieved what we set out to do and it was magnificent. But we did

n't. And so we have been working to create creating another work of art to be unveiled to the world at the Chelsea Flower Show. It's another mammoth feat of superhuman endeavour. It sounds kind of epic and in many ways it is epic, representing thousands upon thousands upon thousands of woman and man hours. Teams of people working harder than ever to create another masterpiece - to honour our heroes, our loved ones, our families, our friends.

"This tiny personal project started out to pay tribute to my gorgeous dad Wal Beasley and Marg's wonderful dad Stan Knight, who were our personal heroes. But that is just one story of a project that is rich in stories. Every single contributor has done so for their own reasons, personal and private

and or shared with the community at large. The dedications are a testament to that. Everyone has a story behind their poppies. I love that."

"The field of poppies will be breathtaking," said a spokesman for the Chelsea Flower Show.

"Philip Johnson's beautiful exhibit will use 300,000 individually-crocheted poppies that will cover more than 2,000 square metres of the grounds of the Royal Hospital.

"The Chelsea tribute will honour all of the Commonwealth servicemen and women, who have fought across all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations over the last 100 years. This is the first time that the RHS Chelsea Flower Show has connected into the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea in such a dramatic way."



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Courageous Prince to do battle with stinking willy

FARMERS' hero Prince Charles has again won thanks from landworkers for leading a new campaign against the threat of stinking willy, or ragwort as it is more politely known.

The Prince has prompted the Government's adviser for the natural environment in England to mobilise against the invasion of the common yellow wild flower which also goes under the aliases of cankerwort, benweed and staggerwort.

Following a series of letters from Prince Charles asking Natural England what plans it had to stem the alarming

spread of the reeking weed, which is poisonous to many animals, the nature and landscape protectorate is to launch a drive to publicise "better management of the highways and embankments" and get ragwort ripped up.

Although the weed provides a home and food source for at least 77 species of insects, it is a big worry to farmers as it will easily kill a cow or fell a horse.

Fearing that there was insufficient awareness of the plant's poisonous dangers to cattle and other livestock, the Prince has been lobbying Natural England to face the threat and now the quango is to change its staff

training programme so that the menace of the ponging flower is tackled, winning Charles the praise and gratitude of the Tenant Farmers' Association and the Country Land and Business Association, gladdened that they have a champion who will take on the bureaucrats.

■ **COUNTRY CAMPAIGNER:**
Prince Charles



William to shine some light into dark world of men's mental health

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

EVERY two hours of every day one man in the UK will take his own life.

That is the shocking statistic that shamefully sums up the misery for many of the men living in Britain today.

Some will be bankers, others students, others young men in prison and others firemen and police officers. Some others are ex-soldiers, some are farmers, some homeless, some medics. All of them have just had enough of just too much; depression, poverty, stress and of the constantly-forlorn hope that one day things will get better.

Suicide is now the biggest killer of young men aged between 20 and 45, according to sad figures compiled by the Campaign Against Living Miserably [Calm]. In 2014, there were 4,623 male suicides in Britain; 88 a week, 12 a day.

The problem is everywhere; last year the British Medical Association expressed its shock that one in seven medical students has considered suicide during the course of their studies.

In the same year the Police Federation and the Fire Brigades Union announced their deep concern that suicides among officers and firefighters are on the increase as the mental health of emergency services workers worsens.

Last year too, more than 30 suicide prevention charities warned the Government that not enough is being done to tackle the growing problem of young men taking their own life.

Jane Powell, chief executive of Calm, said there was "no ef-

fort to get a handle on the scale of the issue, no support for the suicidal".

She added: "The figures stay the same because nationally we don't do anything about it. We don't look at the position of men in society – we might know that more men take their lives, but this isn't taken into consideration."

"We don't look at suicide prevention messages with men in mind, and certainly not with any level of sophistication. Putting a man holding his head on a leaflet isn't going to work."

But what may help to work is the offer of a hand from Prince William – and his wife and his brother – to give the problem the greater awareness it needs.

The Duke of Cambridge is reported to be set to front a campaign on mental health issues that affect young men, which is said to be readying for a launch in the spring.

This could be key to getting the Government to pull its finger out about addressing a great national concern. For although the young prince is no more a qualified expert on mental ill health than any other Tom, Dick or his brother Harry, what he and the other young royals bring to the table is the ability to generate massive national and international publicity.

Like his revered mother before him, William has the clout and the public status to bring the spotlight with him; when he talks, people listen, just as they did when Princess Diana changed public opinion with her subtle but caring campaigns on the issues of HIV/AIDs and land mines, and just as they have to the admirable good intentions that lie behind the for-



■ ROYAL ROLES: The Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry are joining Prince William in bringing publicity to the nation's need for greater awareness of mental health issues

mation of his father's Prince's Trust.

"It is important to consider the impact of the ambassadorial role that the young royals have with things that matter," said one royal watcher.

"Through his work already for the homeless and Centrepoint, through the stand that both he and Kate have recently

and honestly made on the issues of child mental health and vulnerable children, through the stand that Harry is making to help the problem afflicting ex-Servicemen and women, it is all helping hugely to generate massive news coverage and thereby draw attention to key issues in Britain today."

At a time when Labour supporters in the, ironically, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea have joined the Republic brigade to have done with the royals, for the first family to be turfed out of Kensington Palace and be reduced to the leisurely but so-

cially-inactive role of other rich people, the loss of their crucial role as spokesman for the needy is incalculable.

Who would pay as much attention if it was the Leader of the Opposition making a stand, as William and Kate did for much of last year, on child mental health problems? How many action-prompting headlines would be generated if Republic's CEO and mouthpiece Graham Smith made a stand on young men's suicide?

The answer to that is very few and important attention would be lost as the majority asked, "Graham who?"



Where to see a royal

FULL details of events in the ever-busy diaries of the many members of the Royal Family are available from the official website www.royal.gov.uk but here's their schedule for the week ahead

March 8

■ **The Queen**, accompanied by **The Prince of Wales**, will visit The Prince's Trust Kennington Centre, Cranmer Road SW9.

■ **The Princess Royal** will open a new Nuclear Medicine Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography X-ray Department at the Hillingdon Hospital, Pield Heath Road, Uxbridge.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Chancellor, University of London, will attend the International Programmes Graduation Ceremony at the Barbican Centre.

■ **The Duke of Gloucester**, as President, Public Monuments and Sculpture Association, will attend the Exhibition *Out There: Our Post-War Public Art* at Somerset House.

March 9

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Renter Warden, the Fishmongers' Company, will attend a Court Dinner for Masters and Clerks of the Great Twelve Livery Companies, Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge.

■ **The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester** will attend a Lecture entitled *Kings In Exile: The Residences of French Royal and Imperial Exiles in Britain, 1875 to 1920*, at Stationers Hall, Ave Maria Lane EC4.

March 10

■ **The Duke of Edinburgh**, as Freeman and Liveryman, the Fishmongers' Company, will attend a Court Lunch at Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Patron, the Butler Trust, will hold the Annual Awards Ceremony at St James's Palace.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Renter Warden, the Fishmongers' Company, will attend a Committee of Wardens Meeting, a General Court Meeting and a Luncheon at Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge.

■ **The Duke of Gloucester**, as Patron, Construction Youth Trust, will present The Duke of Gloucester's Young Achievers Awards at the Under Globe, 21 New Globe Walk, Bankside.

March 14

■ **The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh** will attend the Commonwealth Observance at Westminster Abbey.

■ **The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh** will attend the Commonwealth-Secretary's General Reception at Marlborough House.

■ **The Duke of Kent**, as Colonel, Scots Guards will host a Dinner at The Queen's Guard Officers' Mess, St James's Palace for the Clothworkers' Guild.

March 15

■ **The Duke of Edinburgh**, as Patron, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will attend Receptions for young people who have achieved the Gold Standard in the Award, at St James's Palace.

■ **The Countess of Wessex**, as Patron, Tomorrow's People, will attend a Women of Achievement Lunch at the Caledonian Club, Halkin Street.

■ **The Countess of Wessex**, as Patron, Greater London Fund for the Blind, will open the Geranium Shop, 269 Kensington High Street.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Royal Honorary Colonel, University of London Officers' Training Corps, will attend a Dinner at Yeomanry House, Handel Street WC1.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Commandant-in-Chief (Youth), St John Ambulance, will hold a First Aid Champions Reception at Buckingham Palace.

Capital nights

EDITED BY GEOFF BAKER

IS there anybody in the whole of the London theatre scene who isn't appearing in the BBC's month-long celebration of Shakespeare this year? The line-up reads like a bill for Thesp Aid.

Dame Judi Dench, Sir Ian McKellen, Joseph Fiennes, Ian Bostridge, Rufus Wainwright, Tim Minchin, Al Murray, Meera Syal, Alison Moyet, Sanjeev Bhaskar, Paapa Essiedu, Pippa Nixon, Alexandra Gilbreath, Noma Dumezweni, The Royal Ballet, English National Opera, Birmingham Royal Ballet, and The Orchestra of the Swan are among the cast of the lifetime who will join David Tennant, as he hosts a live TV celebration, from the Royal Shakespeare Company HQ in Stratford to mark the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death.

Shakespeare Live! From The RSC will be broadcast on BBC Two next month and is part of the BBC Shakespeare Festival 2016, which the BBC says will see the Corporation use "the full range of its services – local, national and global – to make Shakespeare irresistible to everyone".

But wait, there's even more in the company for this Bard blast yet. Also pitching in will be Maxine Peake, Matt Lucas, Bernard Cribbins, Elaine Paige and Richard Wilson, who will appear in a new take of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, created by Russell T Davies.

And there's more.

Also confirmed are Harry Enfield, *Emmerdale*'s Paula Wilcox, Liza Tarbuck, *Raised By Wolves*' Helen Monks, *Game of Thrones*' Gemma Whelan, *Saturday Night Dinner*'s Mark Heap, *Big School*'s Steve Speirs, *Toast Of London*'s Tim Downie, *Peaky Blinders*' Dominic Coleman, *Big Babies*' Spencer Jones and *Grownups*' Rob Rouse, all of whom will be appearing in *Upstart Crow* – a six-part series about the life of William Shakespeare which will star David Mitchell as the man himself.

Upstart Crow is written by Ben Elton and will be set in 1592 at the beginning of Shakespeare's career.

"The series will focus on both Will's family and professional life and include the surprising stories of where many of his ideas came from. Also featured are his wife Anne and his

Welcome to the British Bardcasting Corporation



STARS ARE OUT FOR SHAKESPEARE: The BBC has lined up Dame Judi Dench, Matt Lucas and David Mitchell – among others – to pay tribute to the Bard

extended family, his servant Bottom, his friends Kate and Marlowe, his theatrical troupe, and his rival Robert Green," says the BBC.

"In the series, Will finds inspiration for Romeo from an unlikely source; mislays a nearly treasonous masterpiece; gets tricked into a very embarrassing pair of tights; has a spot of bother with the wife over some

sonnets; meets three witches who predict great things for him; and borrows some money on some rather unusual conditions."

"I'm delighted to be playing England's greatest bard at this difficult time for bards everywhere. You just try getting work as a bard these days. It's virtually impossible," quips Mitchell.

Ben Elton added: "I have tried very hard to think myself into Shakespeare's creative world, writing only with a small chicken feather and not changing my underpants for a year", raising hopes that the jokes for his glittering production will be better than that.



WILL the greatest rock and roll band in the world finally win the record for the greatest rock and roll gig in the world when The Rolling Stones play their first show in Havana on March 25?

With a Cuban population of just 11 million, even the Stones will be up against it to draw the more than 4.2 million who were estimated to have watched Rod Stewart on the beach in Rio in 1994. But with the Stones making this a free gig, you never know.

On the other hand, with most of the island reportedly wanting to witness this once-in-a-lifetime event, the previously-banned-from-Cuba Stones may be forced by security chiefs to limit the gig's capacity for fear of inciting the riot of all riots.

London Stones fans who fancy nipping over to catch the historic event should be prepared to shell out a bit more than nothing; return flights to Havana start at £1,250 in economy and a couple of nights at Cuba's top digs, the Hotel Saratoga where the Stones will doubtless be staying, will take the bill to more than £1,500.

Alternatively, they could just wait a bit – as the whole event will be filmed for a movie release later this year.



COURT IN THE ACT: Garfunkel

THE Hampton Court Palace Festival has now added Art Garfunkel to the bill of this year's glittering event.

Paul Simon's beautifully-voiced other half will perform at the festival on June 22, singing hits from the ever-popular Simon & Garfunkel repertoire, along with his songs from his solo collection, like *Bright Eyes*.

He will join other world-renowned artists to perform in Henry VIII's Tudor courtyard from June 8 to 23, including: Sir Tom Jones, who will kick off the event and perform two further concerts on June 15 and 16, ten-time Grammy award-winner George Benson, vocal legend Van Morrison, Katherine Jenkins and her tribute to the Queen's 90th birthday, pop queen Anastacia, Jools Holland and his Rhythm & Blues Orchestra, multi-platinum-selling artist Caro Emerald and the fanfare and fireworks with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra.

Could sexy Sabrina put The Archers back on target?

BBC chiefs fearful that the recent "Albert Squaring" of *The Archers* has turned off too many listeners who are sick to high heaven of enduring the grotesque wife-bullying plot are looking for a new character to join the show and lighten the gloom at Ambridge.

Cue Sabrina Thwaite? Sabrina, pictured, described by the BBC as "the super-fit yummy mummy", has been the saucy talk of the village for years – but only the saucy talk as the soap's bosses have never let her be heard by the saga's six million fans.

But now we hear that the silent character is to be cast and heard at last,

in order to provide a seductive distraction from the disastrous Rob and Helen Titchener storyline, which has become so dark and sinister that many stalwart listeners have switched off.

Although the mental abuse of Helen by the psychopathic Rob has generated news headlines for *The Archers* and has justified the aim of controversial editor Sean O'Connor for the soap to have a social function – i.e. warn the public of the vile forms that domestic bullying can take – it has caused despair and dismay among long-time fans who want charming country stories and not *Cathy Come Home*. Clearly the merciless bullying of Helen has done some good

in that it has caused *The Archers*' fan club to donate more than £60,000 so far to Refuge, the charity which supports the thousands of women and children who live in fear of domestic violence and abuse. Refuge stands to deservedly benefit even more in September, when the cash-in BBC will be releasing *The Story Of Rob and Helen* CD and audiobook, from which it is hoped that some – if not all – profits will be donated to the crucially-important charity. But the country soap was not meant to be *Panorama* and there is now much concern that *The*

Archers has gone too far with its campaigning, however admirable and necessary it is. However, now that O'Connor has shipped back to *EastEnders* to be as gritty and society-bettering as he likes, insiders say

there are frantic plans behind the scenes to make *The Archers* "lighten up and stop soap-boxing". The moles at The Bull say one favoured plan is to majorly expand the character of Sabrina, the wife of rich but tedious accountant Richard, who is thought to have all the attributes to become the new "cougar"



of Ambridge; sexy, provocative and, one potential story idea suggests, entirely capable of a carry-on with one, or even two, of the younger male characters and more besides. Although Sabrina has never been heard, a Twitter account under her name – and distinctly non-farmer photograph – has been running for years and is believed to be the work of one of *The Archers* production team, who has had her regularly posting about her "magic knickers" – along with hints that she may enjoy "a bit of rough" with her long-time admirer Eddie Grundy.

Eddie to cheat on Clarrie with Ambridge's scarlet woman? That would boost the ratings.



BY NICKY SWEETLAND AND JACK DIXON • EDITED BY GEOFF BAKER

IT'S been a long coming of age for indie pop heartthrobs the Mystery Jets – but it seems their musical maturation is finally complete.

West London's Eel Pie Island may have been the scene of the band's opening act but after 13 years, five studio albums and a cycle of line-up reshuffles, the Jets have upped sticks and gone intergalactic.

Or so they would have us believe on their latest offering, *Curve of the Earth*, which features some of their most melodramatic work to date.

Singer Blaine Harrison, who turned 30 during the writing of the album, says its astrological themes aligned with his own thoughts on growing up.

"When we released our first two albums we were running around London like a pack of wolves, going out with the wrong women and experiencing everything the city had to offer," he says. "We still love it – but we have a sense of perspective about it all."

"There are friends of mine who might be 10 years into doing something far more honourable and worthwhile than playing in a band and they're starting to think about kids."

"So on this album I'm asking where I fit into all of that, along with the feeling at the back of our mind about whether we can sustain it forever ... do we have to get proper jobs?"

Arriving on the crest of a wave in the early 2000s alongside a glut of British guitar bands making rock music to dance to (Franz Ferdinand, The Futureheads, Razorlight), the

The mystery deepens

■ **MUSICALLY AMBITIOUS:** The Mystery Jets. Below left: their latest album, *Curve of the Earth*

Jets channelled seductive teen indie with a fashionable edge of 80s glam pop.

It was a winning combination that led to minor hits *Two Doors Down* and *Half in Love with Elizabeth* at the peak of their powers.

But on *Curve of the Earth*, after a four-year break, Harrison and co are at their most musically ambitious.

Some of the tracks, the singer reveals, were penned while looking out across the sea from a

beach hut on the south coast.

Although the songwriting escapade was almost struck by disaster.

"I was there one time with my dad, going through some songs," he recalls. "We were sitting watching the sea and very quickly noticed the waves were getting bigger and bigger."

"Then the phone started ringing and it was relatives telling me to get out of there because there were flash floods coming – the worst seen in that part of England for 60 years, it turns out – and we just had enough time to pick up the guitar and rush to the nearest B&B."

"It all started as pretty airy-fairy

notions about the moon and ageing, and then ended up being shaped by the very real event of almost being washed away by the sea."

The band's first UK gigs since the *Radlands* album tour included an electric performance at the Brixton Academy last month – a homecoming of sorts – and the band are back in London to headline the Goose Island 312 Day beer festival at Hoxton Docks on Saturday, March 12.

■ **ON A ROLL:** Stewart Lee



quaking in their boots when they sit down to write about the man who once warned: "No one is equipped to review me."

When the latest instalment of Lee's *Comedy Vehicle* rolls onto TV screens this week, you can expect just as many outraged viewers calling for Lee's head as adoring fans hailing him a hero.

■ *Stewart Lee's Comedy Vehicle* is on Thursday at 10pm, BBC Two.

THE new series of *Made In Chelsea* returns to the screen this month, with TV bosses promising "there is no doubt that series 11 will be different". What? There's not going to be anyone actually ordinary in it, is there?

Sadly, it would seem not. The show's producers at Monkey TV have somehow resisted the temptation to sign up anyone from a Big Mac counter and instead has added newcomers Jessica Molly Dixon and Olivia Bentley to its line-up of the privileged.

"Nineteen-year-old Jessica is a strong-willed lingerie entrepreneur," says E4, exciting curiosity about what constitutes strong-willed lingerie.

"Having just moved in with Tiffany Watson, she is also friends with Toff, Jamie and Sam. Brutally honest, Jessica is used to the jet-set lifestyle, splitting her time between Monaco and LA with her parents who own a touring business for rock and pop bands."

E4 added: "Outspoken and upfront twenty-year-old Olivia Bentley is a fine art photographer who specialises in nudes. A resident of King's Road during the week and Henley at the weekends, Olivia's great-great-grandfather was the founder of Bentley Motors. Confessing to being a tomboy, she also admits to having romantic history with Sam Thompson."

So, no actual difference then?

On the contrary, says Sarah Dillistone, Executive Producer for Monkey.

"There is no doubt series 11 will be different – it's the first time we've had five couples on the show. Giving fans a real insight into the ups and downs of our cast's relationships, the series promises love, tension and of course the drama that everyone tunes in for. But with any series of *Chelsea*, anything could happen; will we even have one couple by the end?"

The nation waits agog.

THOSE chaps at *The Times* really ought to try taking more tobacco with it. The Thunderer recently shocked Kensington residents by announcing that the V&A's forthcoming exhibition of *Records & Rebels of The Sixties* would involve an experience that will "replicate the effects of LSD".

But before the excellent museum's many friends cancel bookings for the September event from fear that they may freak out and "get the horrors", we are assured that there is no danger of anyone being made to see lizards on the walls at the *You Say You Want A Revolution* show.

Although light shows, videos and high-tech head sets will work together to give visitors the "immersive experience" of being at a Sixties "happening", a V&A spokeswoman said "it will not feel like you have just dropped a tab of acid".

However, the show will gloriously feature the music and artefacts of many who did. Among the 350 objects to be on display will be Jimi Hendrix's guitar, Mick Jagger's stage costumes and George Harrison's uniform donned for The Beatles' *Sgt Pepper* album. The music for the show will be taken from John Peel's personal record collection, thus making it the best soundtrack in town.



Lee's Comedy Vehicle on the road again but will his audience last the ride?

LOVED and loathed in equal measure, few comedians can claim to divide opinion quite so sharply as Stewart Lee.

His stand-up – delivered in the thinly-veiled guise of an embittered on-stage alter ego – is so heavily loaded with irony and deadpan wit that newcomers often find themselves flummoxed as to whether Lee is cruising or crashing.

So unimpressed was *Daily Telegraph* critic Dominic Cavendish

during a 2013 show in Leicester Square that he got up and left halfway through before penning an angry review condemning Lee's "toxic scorn".

But that hasn't stopped the London comic who now collects his bad reviews in a page on his website – he even prints the very best ones on his own posters.

"Whoever gave Stewart Lee a series with the word 'comedy' in it should be shot," chortled one of the Twitterati.

Biting back, Lee has used his shows to publicly bad-mouth critics, celebrity enemies Jeremy Clarkson and Chris Moyles – as well as 'popular' comics Michael McIntyre and the Russells Brand, Howard and Kane.

And with his rambling, often bizarre, *Observer* columns, he has created a persona of sneery, intellectual liberalism that has at the same time enraptured his fans and alienated his denigrators.

So comedy critics will no doubt be

Talk of the town

The Rocky Horror Show *****

SHAMEFULLY, my trip to the New Wimbledon Theatre marked my first ever visit to *The Rocky Horror Show*, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The film version frightened me when I was a child and so I've shunned the classic musical ever since.

But if the current touring production is anything to go by however, I've spent the last 30 years missing out on the most joyful theatrical experience – and so will endeavour to see the mad-cap musical many more times in the future.

Written by Richard O'Brien, the show started its life at the

Oh joy! Rocky's a sheer delight, not a horror at all

Royal Court in 1973 and is couched as a tribute to the early science fiction and horror B movies. The ground-breaking comedy style of the piece has since paved the way for the likes of *The Book of Mormon* and *Avenue Q*, which possibly wouldn't exist had it not been for *The Rocky Horror Show*.

Such is the draw of *Rocky*,

fans follow the production around the country, attend in full costume and even have their own hilarious script for when the fourth wall is momentarily removed at various points along the way.

Seasoned stand-up comic Steve Punt is on hand as the master of ceremonies to attempt to keep the audience participation in check. Punt handles the barracking with a quick-witted banter, which maintains the momentum of the show but allows the fans to feel as if they are part of the process, often with mirthful results.

The story follows an innocent couple called Brad and Janet who, after getting caught in a storm, find themselves at the home of a transvestite inventor whose latest creation is about to be born.

The Frankenstein-like architect, Frank N Furter, is played by Liam Tamne who is a revelation as the libidinous rogue, giving the virginal couple their first taste of the forbidden fruits. Hugely



■ IN FOR A SURPRISE: The cast of *Rocky*



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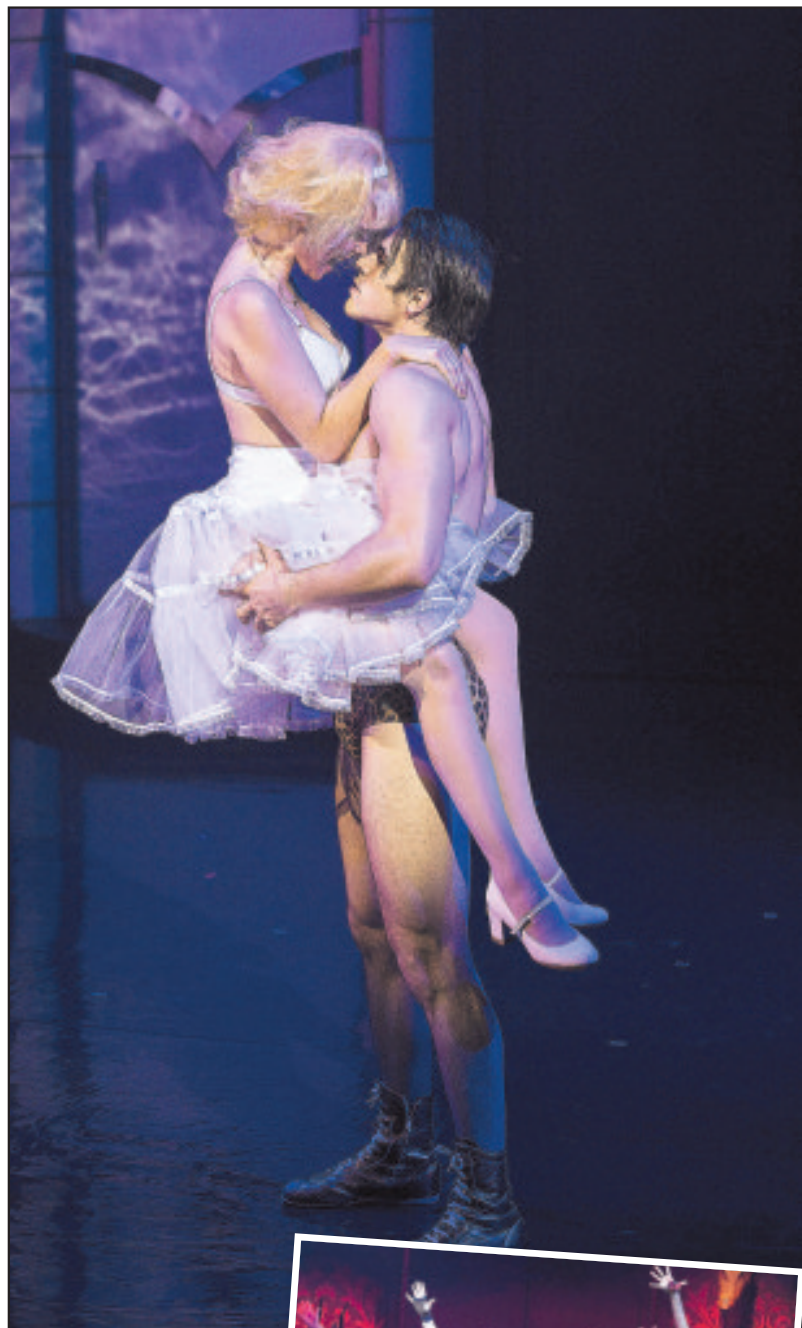
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funny, ravishingly racey and with a glorious voice, Tamne commands the stage and, quite rightly, completely steals the show.

His nubile subjects, Brad (Ben Freeman) and Janet (Diana Vickers), are absolutely adorable as the cutesy betrothed pair. Vickers plays the virtuous Janet perfectly, with sumptuous vocal clarity and a delightful wide eyed innocence, with Freeman's nerdy Brad, physically and facially totally on point.

His *Once in a While* showcases his soaring tenor voice while allowing the former *Emmerdale* star to enjoy some well timed deadpan.

The eponymous creation, *Rocky* (Dominic Anderson) is mesmerising as the manmade man with shimmering pectorals, glistening glutes and a favourably fluid delivery, while Kristian Lavercombe and Kay Murphy are deliriously das-



■ **FULL ON:** *Rocky's* traditional party atmosphere is totally absorbing. Main picture: Ben Freeman and Diana Vickers get to grips with their new-found sexual freedom

tardly as Riff Raff and Magenta.

With a fantastic supporting cast, impressive design and simply wonderful music, the opening night at The New Wimbledon had a party atmosphere and was greeted with a well deserved standing ovation

by the rapturous audience.

The show, that is immensely pleasing both on the eye and the ear, is filled with fantastic performances from all the characters involved.

Yes, I could quite happily do *The Time Warp* again and again.

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Talk of the town



■ **FAMILY FAVOURITES:** Chris Lemmon gets a feel for music with his famous father, the comedy actor Jack

My life with a comedy legend

THE recent Academy Awards saw Leonardo DiCaprio finally scoop the prize in the Best Actor category after his sixth attempt, but he's in good company, writes *Nicky Sweetland*.

Many esteemed performers before him have also taken knock-backs before eventually winning the coveted accolade. One such legend is about to be immortalised by a new West End play which will see his son take to the stage in an affectionate and intimate portrayal of his life with an icon. The show is entitled *A Twist of Lemmon* and charts the relationship between the eventual Oscar-winning actor Jack Lemmon and his family, in particular his son Chris – who I spoke to at his New England home a few weeks ago.

The play is based on a book of memoirs which Chris had published in 2006. The success of the book, which has a foreword by Kevin Spacey, who credits Lemmon as the inspiration for his acting career, spawned a book tour which then led to the stage adaptation. Lemmon junior tells Jack's story in his father's voice and chronicles his life from birth until his death in 2001 at the age of 76.

Chris tells me: "The show is obviously enormously special to me, you know, it's a whole kind of a life statement and something that I've spent years and years developing and working and trying to get just right. Now I think we're pretty close. I think we're there and so I'm taking a huge plunge and I'm bringing it to what I consider to be the most discerning theatrical audience there in London and with my fingers crossed in the hope that you all like it."

Chris is a decorated performer in his own right, having trained classically as a musician – and has

appeared in more than 25 feature films. His acting career never reached the dizzy heights of his father's however, whose filmography reads like a top ten of the 1950s and 60s. Jack Lemmon was part of the golden age of film and counted Marilyn Monroe and Walter Matthau as contemporaries. Chris remembers glamorous showbiz parties at his father's house in Hollywood where the likes of James Cagney, Gregory Peck, Shirley McLain, James Stewart and Billy Wilder would while away the evenings.

The show was first toured in the US as part of the preparation process and Chris has made some notable changes for the London audiences which include the addition of an interval.

"In the course of making it into a two-act play I think I've really made a major improvement in the narrative structure of the play itself, so it's turned



■ **THAT'S MY BOY:** Chris Lemmon with his father Jack's Oscar and on set, top

out to be a win win situation."

The writer was obviously very close to his father but there is no doubt Jack Lemmon put his career first and family second. Their relationship is the focal point for this extremely moving story but Chris

is also keen to examine the humorous aspect, for which Jack Lemmon is perhaps most well known.

"He was awfully funny wasn't he? I think even more so off screen than he was on, so it's very funny. The whole point of it is, make them laugh, make them cry all at the same time. Pop really believed, what was his famous line? 'Drama's hard, comedy's harder and being funny in a drama is the hardest thing of all'."

"That's what I attempt to do and I've

been told by reviewers and audience members alike that I'm succeeding, (laughs). He was a human leprechaun and it was my duty to reflect that. He was just so much fun and being around him, he was just infectious."

A Twist of Lemmon runs at the St James Studio from June 1. For more details visit the website stjamestheatre.co.uk

Advertisement Feature

Tariq Halal, Hailed as the Harrods of Meat, Wins Butcher's Shop of the Year Award 2015

Known for providing customers with top quality, fresh, chilled & frozen Halal meat all over Europe for more than 50 years now, Tariq Halal successfully bags Butcher's Shop of the Year Award

Tariq Halal, founded on the mission to provide top quality, fresh and hygienic Halal meat with superior customer experience, first opened its doors to meat lovers in 1965. It's been 50 years now, and even today, Tariq Halal continues to be the leading and go-to Halal meat specialist for customers all over Europe; catering to an average 1500 customers per day. Tariq Halal is the first meat franchise in the UK offering a unique proposition; fresh Halal meat products in the best condition and at a good price.

The company's hard-work, dedication, strong commitment towards its customers and passion to supply them with quality Halal meat, combined with an excellent shopping experience, has earned them the Butcher's Shop of the Year Award 2015.



Super-excited and overwhelmed at winning the award, Mr. Tariq Sheikh, the CEO of Tariq Halal, had this to say, "My staff and I are honoured at winning this prestigious award. For us, this is not just an award; it's recognition of our persistent efforts and commitment to provide our customers with quality meat and shopping experiences. In fact, this award will fuel our performance even more as we continue to delight our customers with quality all the way."

Tariq Halal supplies and sells a large selection of Halal meat products, ranging from fresh, frozen, offal, marinated and chilled meat to a wide customer base including multiple retailers, butchers, wholesalers, cash & carry as well as their own franchises.

Mr. Tariq further added and said, "There are many factors that help us meet and supersede our customers' expectations and deliver them quality products each and every time without any compromise, including the fact that we source our

meats, herbs and spices from the most accredited and leading suppliers in the UK/EU and use only pure and quality ingredients. We partner with suppliers who share the same values as us, to provide quality products and serve our customers with integrity."

Another factor that he mentioned that sets Tariq Halal apart from its contemporaries was the hygienically controlled environment under which the frozen food is prepared and stored to be sold by the company. He stated that the condition is controlled and monitored 24 hours a day. Furthermore, unlike other companies, their frozen food is of great quality, Halal and based on original home cooked recipes, so customers away from home can enjoy the same taste in food that they had back home.

Additionally, their store quality and ambience helps them deliver an excellent meat shopping experience like no other and they want this experience to be enjoyed by a maximum number of customers. Mr. Tariq expanded upon this by saying, "We want Halal and hygienic meat to be available to customers readily and easily and this is exactly why we are expanding our market outreach rapidly. We are the fastest growing chain of Halal butchers, providing many franchise opportunities."

About The Company



Founded in 1965, Tariq Halal is a family owned business operated by Mr. Tariq Sheikh. The company is committed to providing customers all over Europe with the highest quality, fresh and hygienic Halal meat with an excellent customer experience. The company has an average of 1500 customers per day and continues to expand its reach across London rapidly.

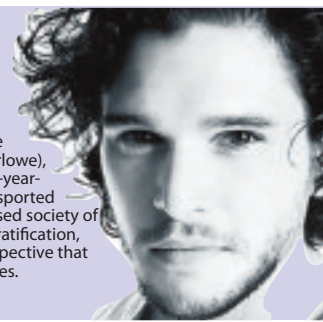
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■ **FULL** casting has been announced for the much anticipated West End production of *Doctor Faustus*.

Game of Thrones heart-throb Kit Harington, pictured, plays the title role in The Jamie Lloyd Company's production, which has also announced a three-week extension due to an unprecedented demand for tickets. This anarchic version of *Doctor Faustus* will run at the Duke of York's Theatre, London, from April 9. Directed by Jamie Lloyd, Christopher Marlowe's masterwork, with two acts written by Colin Teevan, is now

booking until Saturday June 25. With Teevan's darkly comic scenes replacing the extant middle acts (widely believed not to have been written by Marlowe), the story of this 400-year-old play will be transported to a celebrity-obsessed society of greed and instant gratification, offering a fresh perspective that chimes with our times.



Talk of the town

BY NICKY SWEETLAND

Chicago ****
New Wimbledon Theatre

RIGHT from the outset, I must confess to being a big fan of *Chicago* the musical, writes Nicky Sweetland.

I've seen it a number of times and even know the Hungarian verse of the *Cell Block Tango*, so when I found out the tour was coming to town, I hurried to the New Wimbledon Theatre with a huge amount of anticipation.

The production boasts an all star cast with *X Factor* winner Sam Bailey as prison warden Matron Mama Morton, *Celebrity Big Brother* housemate John Partridge as the suave Billy Flynn and former *Coronation Street* star Hayley Tamaddon, who plays the leading role as tricky murderess Roxi Hart.

Chicago is the type of show which divides audiences. Its simple design and sleek costumes can leave some searching for something more. I feel, however, the classic musical, based on the play of the same name by Maureen Dallas Watkins, a reporter who wrote about the colourful criminals she came across as part of her journalistic career, needs no accoutrements and instead relies on the great music, potent dancing and an engaging story.

Tamaddon plays the good time girl Roxi, whose dull marriage forces her



■ **POWER PLAY:** John Partridge, Hayley Tamaddon and Sam Bailey to star in *Chicago*, the musical

It's my kind of musical

to search for more excitement in a town where jazz and liquor are the standard currency.

The former soap actress brings some lovely cheek and vigour to the role alongside Sophie Carmen-Jones, who plays her nemesis, another merry murderess, Velma Kelly. Carmen-Jones gives an added vulnerability to the cunning convict and shines with her gutsy, *I Can't Do it Alone*.

Charged with getting the pair released from the clink, Partridge as the sleazy lawyer Billy Flynn gives a good account and former real life prison warden Bailey is masterful as the crooked custodian.

As is expected from the *Chicago* brand, the choreography and music are really top notch, with songs like *All That*

Jazz and *All I Care About* lifting the audience into an excited frenzy and giving the musical that patented, humorous, tongue-in-cheek look into life as a prison inmate in the 1920s, which fans of the show all know and love so well.

A D Richardson is a marvel as Mary Sunshine and sings like an angel – and other than a few stumbled lyrics in the performance I watched, Neil Ditt charms as the hapless mechanic Amos.

There were a few technical issues and nervous performances when I watched *Chicago* on its opening night in Wimbledon, but with a such a strong cast and solid basis, I'm sure the minor hitches will have been ironed out for the remainder of the tour.



■ **FAVOURITE:** The New Wimbledon Theatre

■ **HUGH** Grant has received the BFI Fellowship, the highest honour the institute can bestow for his outstanding contribution to film.

The actor and producer, who is best known for global smash hit *Four Weddings and a Funeral* was presented with the award at the glittering annual BFI Chairman's Dinner, which took place at the Corinthia Hotel.

Known around the world for his Englishness and charm, Grant continues the great British comedy traditions of studios like Ealing,

perfecting a screen acting style which seems effortless but requires incredible skill and artistry. He said: "This is such a lovely surprise and a great honour and I'm very grateful to the BFI for thinking of me."

The award was presented to the star by film producer and Co-Chairman of Working Title, Eric Fellner, at the BFI's Chairman's Dinner, hosted by BFI Chair Greg Dyke. Mr Dyke said: "We are delighted to honour Hugh Grant with a BFI Fellowship."



Outhwaite and Seagrove to star in Ayckbourn comedy

TAMZIN Outhwaite, Nicholas Le Prevost and Jenny Seagrove are to star in *How the Other Half Loves* in the West End.

They are joined by Gillian Wright, Jason Merrells and Matthew Cottle in the Alan Ayckbourn comedy, which opens at the Theatre Royal Haymarket later this month.

It runs from March 23 to June 25, with press night on March 31.

The play, which is being revived in the West End for the first time since its 1970 premiere, will be directed by Alan Strachan and produced by Bill Kenwright.

Set and costumes are by Julie Godfrey, with lighting by Jason Taylor and sound by Dan Samson.

■ Croydon arts centre *Fairfield Halls* is to close for two

years to allow for a £30 million transformation of the building and site.

The venue's managing charity, Fairfield, has now agreed to proposals put forward by Croydon Council last year, which will see a full refurbishment of the 1,800-seat concert hall and the creation of new, adaptable spaces for theatre and other performances.

In order for work to go ahead, Fairfield Halls will close on July 15 for two years, and is expected to re-open again in summer 2018.

Fairfield had previously favoured a phased development, which would have allowed the building to remain open and performances to continue throughout improvement works to the building.



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Talk of the town

Stand-out shows tipped for glory at the Oliviers

GYPSY and *Kinky Boots* will lead the charge at this year's Olivier awards – with the musicals gaining eight and seven nominations respectively.

The nominees were announced last week by previous winners Michael Ball and Imelda Staunton.

The glittering ceremony which will take place at The Royal Opera House on April 3 and is likely to be a star-studded affair, with many celebrity nominees and their stagey friends in attendance.

Staunton is herself among the named few and receives a nomination for her portrayal of Mamma Rose in the Chichester Festival theatre revival of *Gypsy* at the Savoy Theatre. It's the acclaimed actress's 11th Olivier nomination, with her co-stars Dan Burton and Peter Davison being nominated as Best Actor in a Supporting

Role in a Musical and Lara Pulver nominated as Best Actress in a Supporting Role in a Musical.

The feelgood musical *Kinky Boots* has also gained a fist full of nods, with the show's leading men Killian Donnelly and Matt Henry both receiving a nomination for the Best Actor in a musical category and Amy Lennox nominated as Best Actress in a Supporting Role.

The Best Actor and Best Actress categories reflect the incredible wealth of talent that has graced the West End stage in the past year. In the Best Actor category there are nominations for Kenneth Branagh, Kenneth Cranham, Benedict Cumberbatch, Adrian Lester and Mark Rylance. The nominees for Best Actress are Gemma Arterton, Denise Gough, Nicole Kidman, Janet McTeer and Lia Williams.

Dame Judi Dench earns her 15th Olivier Award nomination for Best Actress in a Supporting Role, having previously won six awards and one special award, the most of any performer. Also nominated in that category are Michele Dotrice, Melody Grove and Catherine Steadman.

Public tickets for the event – the awards' 40th anniversary – are available for MasterCard cardholders at the website www.Priceless.com/London

The nominees for MasterCard Best New Musical demonstrate the diversity shown on the London stage this year – with nominees *Bend It Like Beckham*, *In The Heights*, *Kinky Boots* and *Mrs Henderson Presents*.

Shakespeare's Globe has reason to be celebrating with the transfers of their productions of *Farinelli And The King* and *Nell Gwynn* receiving 10 nominations between them. The transfer of *Farinelli And The King* is nominated for Virgin Atlantic Best New Play while *Nell Gwynn*, which transferred to the Apollo, is nominated for Best New Comedy.

English National Opera has received four nominations in the opera categories while the Royal Opera House receives



■ **ACCLAIMED:** Imelda Staunton in *Gypsy* had West End audiences enthralled

three. English National Opera's production of *The Force Of Destiny* is nominated for Best New Opera Production as well as receiving recognition in the Outstanding Achievement in Opera category for Tamara Wilson and the English National Opera Chorus and Orchestra.

In the dance categories there are nominations for the Barbican, London Coliseum, Royal Opera House and Sadler's Wells.

Voting for the Magic Radio Audience Award, the only category voted for entirely by members of the public, will close at noon on Friday, March 11. This year there are 16 eligible long-running shows and votes can be cast via www.olivierawards.com

The awards ceremony will be broadcast on ITV and Mellow Magic and on the Olivier Awards' new YouTube channel (youtube.com/OlivierAwards) worldwide outside the UK.



■ **SOLE MUSIC:** The cast of *Kinky Boots*, which has been tipped to do well at the Olivier Awards in April

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WINE & DINE

The food and drink page for West London

By Gemma Dunn and Kate Whiting, Press Association

WITH her trim figure, long blonde hair and blue eyes, Calgary Avansino looks the epitome of a healthy Californian. But she's made Britain her home for the past 16 years, where, as part of the burgeoning clean-eating brigade, she's transforming our daily diets.

New cookbook *Keep It Real* is packed full of wholesome advice from the mum-of-three (to Ava, Margot and Remy), who arrived here in the winter of 2000, to discover coconut water and quinoa were unheard of, let alone available in local supermarkets.

Now, of course, they're ubiquitous, but we're still making bad decisions about what we put in the trolley.

"I think we've lost a reality check about what real food is, because we're so used to going down the grocery store aisles and seeing 50 cereals and 20 salad dressings and actually, none of that is real food," says the journalist, who, unsurprisingly, looks much younger than her 40 years.

"So, what you're used to doing - you have to stop that habit. Think about food in terms of where it comes from, what it's made from, what goes into it, and start caring about what we put in our bodies in a different way."

Avansino, who started her career in journalism as the assistant to British *Vogue's* editor-in-chief Alexandra Shulman and is now a contributing editor, has a simple set of rules for how to 'keep it real', which include: ditching diets, embracing plants, and eliminating sugar.

"When I talk about a plant-based diet, it doesn't mean you have to be a vegan or veggie at all; if you want to eat lean, good cuts of meat, that's fine. You just have to look at what else you're eating," she says. "I'm not saying make three-starred Michelin meals, I'm just saying chop some spinach."

It was really important for Avansino that her book be published post-January, so it wouldn't be part of the "detox, diet mentality".

"This is forever. You have to decide if you want to change how you think about cooking and the food you put in your kitchen. It should be a great thing - not a deprivation thing."



■ FINE FOOD: Calgary Avansino

Diets are off the menu completely.

"Diet is such a negative concept. It causes this cycle of, 'I'm not good enough, I'm a failure and I can't do this - and now I weigh more than I did before'. Because that's what happens - every time."

"I think there's a huge movement against dieting and that's what I want to see - because I don't want anything I write to be thought of as a diet."

So that means you can indulge in your favourite food, be that pizza or brownies, but she says: "You just can't have it all the time."

"Especially with women, there's this mentality where if I eat something naughty for

breakfast then I think, 'Oh well, this day is shot, I might as well eat crap all day'. But think of every meal as a fresh start. Don't ever beat yourself up about something you ate before - just move on and start with the next meal, day or whatever it is. Don't make food the enemy."

Exercise is also really important - a self-confessed yoga bunny, when she started at *Vogue*, she would arrive fresh-faced from a morning workout to find her colleagues nursing coffees and giving her odd looks. In her book, she says we must make an effort to move our bodies every day.

"I don't find exercise a burden - it just makes me feel more levelled, calm and less stressed. I have really good ideas when I'm working out."

The whole family go hiking when they're back in California - or walk around the parks in London. She's bringing up her children to make healthy choices, but she's careful not to micromanage them so much that they can't indulge at birthday parties.

"I always try to teach them moderation - just choose what you want most and enjoy it."

And that sounds like good advice for us all.

Try some of Calgary's healthy and nutritious dishes for yourself...

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(Serves 4 as a main or 6-8 as a side)

1 large cauliflower (about 750g after trimming)
3tbsp extra virgin olive oil
1/2tsp ground turmeric
1/2tsp ground cinnamon
1/2tsp ground nutmeg
Grated zest of 1 lemon

Juice of 1/2 lemon
15 mint leaves, roughly chopped
60g pistachios, toasted and roughly chopped
4 spring onions, chopped
100g goats' cheese, crumbled
1 x 400g can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
1/2 pomegranate, seeds removed (optional)
Juice of 1 lime
Salt and pepper

Core and cut the cauliflower into medium florets. Blitz the florets in a food processor until they resemble couscous. Do it in two batches if the food processor is more than three-quarters full. Don't over-blend, otherwise it will become pureed - that's baby food, not couscous.

Add two tablespoons of olive oil and fluff with a fork, then season with the salt, pepper, turmeric, cinnamon and nutmeg. Then add all the remaining ingredients except the lime juice and toss together. Add additional olive oil, salt and pepper if necessary. Pour the lime juice over the top.



■ TASTY: Cauliflower couscous

Belinda Donovan

GILLES has been the chef to the French Ambassador for 17 years and loves every minute of living in Fulham. He's worked as chef to the French Embassy for 17 years, describes Fulham as a "fabulous village" and he and his wife and three daughters, aged 17, 14 and nearly 10, feel they're living in a village community complete with the delights of being woken up with birdsong.

Gilles' daughters especially enjoy walking to the local shops and saying hello to their neighbours on the way.

Gilles showed me round the superb entertaining spaces at the French Embassy, only a stone's throw away in Notting Hill Gate, where he told me he feels he is serving his country when he produces culinary delights for the French Ambassador. The land that the French Embassy sits on used to belong to Kensington Palace.

Gilles takes pride in using French ingredients to showcase how wonderful French produce can be, while entertaining at the embassy. He enjoys serving best quality French fruit and vegetables which are obtained from Arungis, the world's largest market.

It's the lemon season at the moment and a great favourite of his to cook with is the Cedra lemon. At this time of year he also likes cooking with artichokes, especially Japanese artichokes and other root vegetables.

Gilles greatly enjoys cooking with Welsh lamb. Apart from lamb, he says he is in love with French Normandy beef, with the flavour exquisite. We discussed how wonderful it is that so many French people are now resident in Fulham! On his nights off, Gilles enjoys more than anything to have a quiet night in cooking for his family. And who needs to go out when such a superb standard of cuisine is served up at home!

Gilles' favourite cookery writer is Michele Bras, who has been voted worldwide by other chefs as their favourite cookery writer, too.

Cote de bœuf and bone marrow, Japanese artichokes and pan-fried girolles, puff potatoes

Ingredients for four people:

1 cote de bœuf	1.8Kg
Bone marrow	2
Japanese artichokes	0.5Kg
Lemon	1
Girolles	0.5Kg
Shallots	0.1Kg
Garlic	2 cloves
Parsley	10g
Celery	1/2 bunch
Chives	1 bunch
Potatoes	500g
Salt from Guerande	
Butter	100g

Ask your butcher to separate the marrow from the bone. Soak the marrow for one night in water and leave in a fridge.

Vegetables: Leave the "cote de bœuf" out of the refrigerator at least 2 hours before cooking. Cut both ends off the Japanese artichokes and leave them for 1/2 hr in water with lemon juice. Clean the mushrooms and pan fry them in vegetable oil. Leave to rest and drain.

Peel and dice the shallots and the garlic. Wash and chop the parsley. Peel the celery and cut into short sticks (four per bundle), cook in boiling salty water. Blanch eight chives and the string tied celery sticks with them. Peel the potatoes; slice them into 3mm squares. Cook in a fryer at 120 degrees for 5mins and give them a second fry at a much higher temperature of 190° for 30 seconds straight away. The difference in temperature will make them puffed. Leave on the side.

Slice the bone marrow in slices of 5mm

Cote de bœuf: Season the cote de bœuf with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Pan fry the cote de bœuf on both sides in a hot pan with vegetable oil and butter; roast it for 12mins at 180°C for medium rare. Let it rest on a rack for at least 15mn.

Deglaze the frying pan with a bit of water and let it reduce until a syrupy consistency. Pan fry the Japanese artichokes with the butter, girolles, shallots, garlic and minced parsley Season to taste. Flash cook the bone marrow slices in a hot oven, seasoned with Guerande salt. Warm up the celery bunches with a mix of butter and water. Flash fry the potatoes in a 170° fryer for 4 mins.

Plating: On a copper tray place the mushrooms and artichokes in the middle, cover with slices of beef with bone marrow on top and the celery bunches around and puff potatoes. Serve the sauce on a side.

Enjoy with a Saint Emilion.



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LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
SECTION 14(1)
(LOCHALINE STREET)

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate Thames Water works works to be carried out in the above named road, it intends to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Lochaline Street between its junctions with Fulham Palace Road and No. 2 Lochaline Street.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Winslow Road, Manbre Road and Parfrey Street.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on Tuesday 29th March 2016 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Tuesday 29th March 2016 and last for 2 weeks. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 26th day of February 2016

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

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LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) (SEAGRAVE ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate development works in Seagrave Road, it made an Order the effect of which prohibits pedestrian traffic on a section of the footway and suspends parking bays in the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, pedestrian traffic on the north-eastern footway between the north-western boundary of the Fulham Ambulance Station, No. 150 Seagrave Road and a point opposite the north-western boundary of No. 59 Seagrave Road will be prohibited.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 will be in place in the carriageway adjacent to the hoarding on the north-eastern footway of Seagrave Road, between the north-western boundary of the Fulham Ambulance Station, No. 150 Seagrave Road and a point opposite the north-western boundary of No. 59 Seagrave Road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed the parking bays opposite Nos. 37 to 41 Seagrave Road and opposite Nos. 59 to 71 Seagrave Road will be suspended.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on the Monday, 29th February 2016 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Monday, 29th February 2016 and last for 8 months. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 16th day of February 2016.

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) (HALDANE ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate tower crane operations in the above named road, it intends to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Haldane Road between its junctions with North End Road and No. Haldane Road.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Hartismere Road, Tournay Road and North End Road.
- Whilst the works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed the one way working system in Haldane Road would be suspended.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on the 30th March 2016 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Wednesday, 30th March 2016 and last for 1 day. With a back up date scheduled for the 7th of April 2016. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 19th day of February 2016.

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) (KING STREET) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate utility installation works in the above named road; it made an Order the effect of which suspends the westbound bus lane in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, the westbound bus lane shall be suspended between Black Lion Lane and St Peter's Square.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be required.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on the 15th March 2016 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Tuesday 15th March 2016 and last for 2 weeks. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2016.

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) (WYFOLD STREET) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate the removal of a tower crane in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which prohibits vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Wyfold Road between its junctions with Munster Road and Kingwood Road.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Kingwood Road and Munster Road.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order would come into operation on the 12th March 2016 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be expected to commence on Saturday 12th March 2016 and last for 1 day. Back up dates are scheduled for the 19th or 26th of March 2016. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2016.

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2015 ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF A NON-IMMEDIATE ARTICLE 4(1) DIRECTION RELATING TO THE ENTIRE AREA OF THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA IN RELATION TO BASEMENT DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTION UNDER ARTICLE 4(1)

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has confirmed a Direction under Article 4(1) of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (GPDO).

The Direction was made on 15th April 2015 and confirmed on 2nd March 2016 and applies to the entire area of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea ('the Council').

The Direction applies to the development described in the following Class of the GPDO:-

Schedule 2 Part 1 Class A in so far as it relates to the enlargement, improvement or other alteration of a dwellinghouse by way of basement development, lightwells or any other development below the dwellinghouse or its curtilage.

The effect of the Direction is that the permission granted by Article 3 of the GPDO shall not apply to such development and such development shall not be carried out within that area unless planning permission is granted by the Council.

A copy of the Direction and of the Plan defining the area to which it relates may be seen at the offices of the Council at the Customer Service Centre, Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX during normal office hours or can be viewed on the Council's website.

The Direction will come into force on 28th April 2016.

Dated: 2nd March 2016

Signed: Tasmin Shadwet
Duly Authorised Officer of the Council

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Orders are accepted by the Publishers subject to the Standard Conditions agreed between the Newspaper Society and the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. Save that:

1. Advertisements are accepted on the conditions that (a) descriptions relating to goods are accurate and in no way contravene the provisions of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, and the Fair Trading Act 1973, and (b) the copy complies with the British Code of Advertising Practice. Advertisements offering credit or hire facilities must conform to the Consumer Credit (Advertisements) Regulations 1980.

2. 'Classified' Advertisers offering goods or service of a business, commercial or trade nature will, at the discretion of the Publishers, be deemed 'Trade Advertisers', and as such, must include their names in advertisements. A telephone number is an optional addition to these requirements and not an alternative.

To comply with the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977, Trade Advertisers must make it clear that they are selling goods in the course of business either by content, format, size or of the advertisement or by including words such as 'trade', 'dealer', 'agent', 'wholesaler', '(T)' etc. in the advertisement.

3. The Publishers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage however caused arising out of:

(a) Any error, inaccuracy or omission in the printing or publishing of any advertisement;
(b) Any failure to publish an advertisement on the day / date or day / dates specified by the advertiser; or
(c) Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.

4. The Publishers will endeavour to publish advertisements on the day / date or day / dates specified by the Advertiser but insertion days / dates cannot be guaranteed.

5. Where shrinkage of advertisement occurs for whatever reasons the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre. This will NOT apply to the full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.

6. The Publishers reserve the right to reject an advertisement or to vary it in any way they deem fit, at any time before publication, whether or not the advertisement has already been accepted for publication.

7. Whilst every effort is made to minimise errors in advertisements, mistakes do sometimes occur. Advertisers or their agents should therefore check their advertisements and inform us of any errors immediately. Responsibility cannot be accepted for more than one incorrect insertion. Typographical or minor changes, which do not affect the value of the advertisement, do not require for republication or allowances.

8. All gross advertising rates (except classified line and semi-display) are subject to and include a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance surcharge, payable by the advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory control system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.

9. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.

10. Should the rate for advertisements be altered the price for remaining insertions shall be revised accordingly or the publishers shall have the right to cancel the unexpired portion of the order.

11. The placing of an advertisement order will be deemed an acceptance of these conditions.

12. Account facilities are granted at the discretion of the Publishers.

13. All accounts must be settled within the terms agreed by the Company and the Customer.
(1) Should an advertiser be in breach of the agreed terms, the publisher shall be entitled to levy a 10% surcharge on the value of the whole debt in respect of accounts with terms of less than 30 days, and any discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed.

(2) Regular monthly accounts that are in breach of the agreed terms will pay an interest rate of 6% above the current bank of England base rate for each month that the account is overdue and discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed. Should legal action be required the interest will be charged in accordance with the County Court Act 1984.

14. Where an advertiser instructs / appoints an advertising agent to act on their behalf, the advertiser will remain jointly and severally liable for payment in respect of an advertisement(s) should the appointed agent fail to pay. For the avoidance of doubt, the agent acts for the advertiser and not for the publisher with the agent being responsible for notifying the advertiser of this liability.

15. All queries must be notified, preferably in writing to the accounts department of the publisher within 7 days of the invoice date.

16. All digital services are maintained in partnership with the publishers' hosting service providers. Every effort is made to ensure the continuity of these services, but some occasional technical downtime beyond the publishers control may occur. The publisher and its associated companies shall be under no liability if the production and distribution of web services is delayed or prevented by any cause beyond the control of the publisher.

17. The Publisher may provide voucher copies for published advertisements in electronic form only subject to certain criteria. Further information is available on request.

18. The copyright of advertisements produced wholly or partially by the Publishers belongs to the Publishers. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the Publishers' consent.

Box Numbers
Boxes are open for the receipt of bona fide answers and are not available for distribution of trade canvassing matter. Original testimonials, goods, cash, cash stamps or payments of any kind must not be enclosed. A box number and postal address are charged as part of the advertisement, i.e. Box No., centre address. There is no charge for forwarding replies. Box numbers alone are not available for use in 'Trade' advertisements, other than Employment and Business Opportunities.

Holiday & Travel Category
All advertising must contain the name of the advertiser, phone number alone are not permitted.

Data Protection

The service you have requested may require us to carry out a credit search at a credit-referencing agency, which will record the fact that a search has been made. We may need to share your information with other lenders and credit reference agencies. However, we will only use the information from these searches to make credit-granting decisions and, if necessary, for fraud prevention or tracing debtors.

Data controller will use your information for administration and analysis. We may share your information with other Third Party Group Newspaper companies or carefully selected third parties. We, or they, may send you details of other goods and services, which may be of interest to you. The information may be provided by letter, telephone or other reasonable means of communication. Calls may be recorded or monitored for training purposes.

Special conditions apply with regard to the advertising of adult services, which are outlined to all persons submitting such advertisements.

PLACE YOUR
PREMISES LICENCE
WITH US FOR ONLY
£112 plus VAT

Call Candy

020 8768 4919

Deadline is Friday at 3pm

**GET
NOTICED
ADVERTISE
YOUR
BUSINESS HERE
CALL
020 8768 4920**

Public Notices

Tel: 020 8768 4939

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL TAX FOR 2016 / 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham has set, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the above Act, the amount of Council Tax for 2016/2017 for dwellings within each Valuation Band as indicated in the Schedule below:

Schedule of Council Tax by Valuation Band

Band	Council Tax £
A	669.21
B	780.74
C	892.27
D	1003.81
E	1226.88
F	1449.95
G	1673.02
H	2007.62

It should be noted the amounts above are before:

- discounts of 25% for single person occupants
- council tax support

Dated: 24th February 2016

Nigel Pallace
Chief Executive

LICENSING ACT 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PREMISES LICENCE

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT **Chelsea Physic Garden Company** has applied to Kensington & Chelsea, Borough Council on 2nd March 2016 for the grant of a premises licence to use the premises at **Chelsea Physic Garden, 16 Royal Hospital Road, London, SW3 4HS** for sale of alcohol on Monday to Saturday 11.00 to 22.00 and Sunday 12.00 to 18.00 (on sales) and Monday to Saturday 10.00 to 22.00 and Sunday 11.00 to 18.00 (off sales) as more particularly set out in the application.

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing to: **Council Offices, 37 Pembroke Road, London, W8 6PW** to be received by no later than 30th March 2016 stating the grounds for making said representation.

A record of the application can be inspected on the Council's website www.rlbkc.gov.uk, or at the above address during office hours.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application for a premises licence and the maximum fine on being convicted of such an offence is £5,000.

Thomas & Thomas Partners LLP
38a Monmouth Street,
London WC2H 9EP
www.tandp.com

YSOLINA HEYWOOD (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of Saint Teresa's Home, 46 Roland Gardens, London SW7 3PW, who died on 10/01/2016, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 16/05/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Snow Hill Trustees Limited,
150 Aldersgate Street, London
EC1A 4AB. Ref: 213/85724

To advertise your restaurant, bar or event, please call

020 8768 4921

South London & MERTON

To advertise in the
Classified Section
Tel: 020 8768 4919

To advertise in this section, please call
020 8768 4919
South London & MERTON

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 VARIOUS ROADS TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate the safe movement of traffic and pedestrians during the 2016 Universities Boat Race on the River Thames, it intends to make an Order the effect of which would be to impose temporary restrictions on vehicular traffic as shown in Articles 4 and 5 of this notice.
- The Order would come into operation on the 23rd March 2016 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months.
- The temporary restrictions of this order do not apply in respect of:
 - a vehicle being used for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes,
 - anything done with the permission of a police constable in uniform or a Council employed parking attendant,
 - a vehicle or trailer authorised by an officer from the Council to be used in connection with the said Boat Races.
- On the day of the 2016 Boat Race, when instructed by Council employees and whilst the authorised traffic signs are in place, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed across, stop, wait, load or unload on Hammersmith Bridge.
- For the duration of this order and whilst the authorised traffic signs are in place, no person shall cause any vehicle to stop, wait, load or unload between 8am and midnight, on the day the 2016 University Boat Race on the River Thames takes place and four days before that day, in the roads specified in this schedule:
 - BRIDGE VIEW.
 - HAMMERSMITH BRIDGE ROAD, between Rutland Grove and Lower Mall.
 - MALL ROAD.
 - OIL MILL LANE.
 - QUEEN CAROLINE STREET, the north-east to south-west arm, the north-west side, from a point 12.00 metres north-east of its south-westernmost extremity to a point 62.00 metres north-east of that extremity.
 - RIVERCOURT ROAD, between Great West Road and Upper Mall.
 - RUTLAND GROVE.
 - SOUTH BLACK LION LANE.
 - STEVENAGE ROAD, the south-west side, from a point 3.75 metres north-west of the common boundary of Nos. 14 and 16 Stevenage Road, to a point 15.00 metres south-east of that point.
 - WELTJE ROAD, between Great West Road and Upper Mall.

Dated this 19th day of February 2016

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

Local Planning Applications London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

32 Yew Tree Road London W12 0TJ 2016/00786/FUL
Erection of a single storey extension, to the side and rear of the main building; installation of 3no rooflights in the rear roof slope.

782 Fulham Road London SW6 5SL 2016/00875/FUL
Change of use of part of the ground floor level from retail (Class A1) into a self-contained studio flat (Class C3); installation of 2no rooflights above the roof of single storey back addition; partial demolition of the single storey ground floor extension to include the installation of new access door and window to the ground floor studio flat, installation of access gate at the rear of the property, formation cycle parking and refuse storage; conversion of first, second and third floor level into 2 x two bedroom self-contained flats.

120 Blythe Road London W14 0HD 2015/06027/FUL
Excavation of front forecourt to form lightwells, in connection with the enlargement of the basement and change of use of the basement and ground floor from (Class A4) public house into 1 x two bedroom unit and 1 x three bedroom unit; erection of a single storey rear extension at ground floor level; alterations to the front elevation of the building (Amended description).

120 Blythe Road London W14 0HD 2015/06029/FUL
Excavation of front forecourt to form lightwells, in connection with the enlargement of the basement and change of use of the basement and ground floor from (Class A4) public house into 1 x two bedroom unit and 1 x three bedroom unit; erection of a single storey rear extension at ground floor level; alterations to the front elevation of the building (Amended description).

168 Dallington Road London W5 0EU 2016/00895/FUL
Installation of 2no rooflights in the front roof slope and 1no rooflight over the main flat roof at roof level.

222 Hamlet Gardens London W6 0TS 2016/00899/TPO
Felling of a Sycamore Tree in the rear garden subject to Tree Preservation Order TPO/136/1/86 (T1).

Bank Buildings Fulham Broadway London SW6 1EP 2016/00901/ADV
Display of an externally illuminated advertisement hoarding measuring 10m (height) x 12m (width) to the front elevation of the building.

White Lodge Paddenswick Road London W6 0UA 2016/00864/FR3

Alterations to the roof covering to include the replacement of existing concrete roof tiles with new roof tiles; installation of a boiler flue to the northern elevation roof slope; rendering of the external walls and the chimney stacks; refurbishment to external windows; associated internal and external alterations.

Flat First And Second Floors 25 Gunterstone Road London W14 9BP 2016/00757/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; installation of 3no. rooflights in the front roof slope; erection of the first, second and roof level into 1no. one bedroom and 1no. two bedroom self-contained flats.

465 Fulham Road London SW6 1HL 2016/00793/FUL

Change of use of part of the lower ground and upper ground floor level from an exercise studio (Class D2) into a one bedroom self-contained flat (Class C3); erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the existing back addition; erection of new external steps from lower ground to upper ground floor level; formation of a bin store and installation of new doors to the side of the single storey back addition; alterations to the rear fenestrations at lower ground and upper ground floor level; associated landscaping.

Flat 3 Second Floor 71 Waldemar Avenue London SW6 5LS 2016/00809/FUL

Amendments to previously approved planning permission ref: 2012/04225/FUL granted 6th February 2013 for the 'Erection of an additional floor at roof level; alterations to windows at second floor level to front and side elevations.' Amendments to include formation of a roof terrace and installation of a new rooflight above the main flat roof level.

Flat 3 Second Floor 71 Waldemar Avenue London SW6 5LS 2016/00848/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of the existing back addition.

8 Parthenia Road London SW6 4BD 2016/00821/FUL
Erection of a front roof extension.

187 - 189 Uxbridge Road London W12 9RA 2016/00854/FUL

Installation of folding fire escape stairs to the rear loading bay and installation of new inward opening metal doors to replace the existing doors to the rear elevation of the warehouse.

22 Sterndale Road London W14 0HS 2016/00779/FUL

Demolition of the existing building with the exception of front facade, erection of a replacement part one, part two, part three and part four storey plus-basement single family dwellinghouse.

211 Hammersmith Grove London W6 0NP 2016/00782/FUL

Erection of a part one, part two storey rear extension at lower ground and upper ground floor level; formation of a roof terrace at upper ground floor level to the rear elevation; erection of a single storey outbuilding following the demolition of existing outbuilding in the rear garden; erection of a single storey side infill extension at the front of the property; erection of brick piers, metal railings at the front of the property; installation of a new rooflight above the main flat roof at roof level; alterations to the front fenestration at lower ground floor level.

342 Fulham Palace Road London SW6 6HS 2016/00761/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the existing back addition; installation of new doors to replace the existing window at ground floor level to the rear elevation.

21 Broomhouse Road London SW6 3QU 2016/00763/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the existing back addition; installation of a new door to replace the existing window at basement level, erection of external steps from basement to ground floor level and erection of a single storey extension at ground floor level to the side of the main building; installation of French doors to replace the existing window at ground floor level to the rear elevation; further excavation and enlargement of rear part of the basement.

28 Ringmer Avenue London SW6 5LW 2016/00832/FUL

Excavation of front garden and part of rear garden to form lightwells, in connection with the enlargement of the basement; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of existing back addition; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side and rear of the existing back addition.

792 Fulham Road London SW6 5SL 2016/00236/FUL

Erection of an additional floor over part of the main roof; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, over part of the existing back addition.

46 Brackenbury Road London W6 0BB 2016/00776/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height by 300mm; erection of a rear extension at first floor level over the remainder of the flat roof to the existing two storey back addition.

6 Ackmar Road London SW6 4UP 2016/00293/FUL

Excavation of the front garden to form a lightwell in connection with the creation of a new basement

12 Wellesley Avenue London W6 0UP 2015/05988/FUL

Demolition of existing single storey building, currently in B2 use; and erection of a part two, part three storey building plus basement providing 1600 sq.m (GIA) of Class B1 (business) floorspace.

FOR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT (DEMOLITION WORK) FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT

White Lodge Paddenswick Road London W6 0UA 2016/00591/LBCHF

Alterations to the roof covering to include the replacement of existing concrete roof tiles with new roof tiles; installation of a boiler flue to the northern elevation roof slope; rendering of the external walls and the chimney stacks; refurbishment to external windows; internal alterations to include rendering to internal walls of bedroom 1 and installation of a new wall mounted boiler in the kitchen area; associated internal and external alterations.

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OR CONTEXT OF A LISTED BUILDING

White Lodge Paddenswick Road London W6 0UA 2016/00864/FR3

Alterations to the roof covering to include the replacement of existing concrete roof tiles with new roof tiles; installation of a boiler flue to the northern elevation roof slope; rendering of the external walls and the chimney stacks; refurbishment to external windows; associated internal and external alterations.



75A Askew Road London W12 9AH 2016/00640/FUL
Erection of an additional floor at roof level; partial demolition of the second floor rear back addition including alterations to the rear fenestration at first and second floor level; formation of roof terraces at first, second and third floor levels; erection of an external staircase at first floor level to the rear of the property; conversion of the first, second and third floor level to provide 2 x one bedroom self-contained

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **27th March 2016**. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2013

NOTICES UNDER REGULATION 13 Unit C302a Westfield London Shopping Centre Ariel Way London W12 7GA 2016/00751/FUL

I give notice that Leon is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Use of part of the front forecourt as an outside seating area comprising of 12no tables and 24no chairs.

Unit C302a Westfield London Shopping Centre Ariel Way London W12 7GA 2016/00752/ADV

I give notice that Leon is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Installation of 10no barriers with non-illuminated canvas signages at the front elevation.

Advertising Rights On Flank Wall 297 North End Road London W16 6NR 2016/00846/ADV

I give notice that Mr Martin MacManara is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Display of 1no internally illuminated led digital screen measuring 5.17m (Height) x 3.17m (Width) x 0.1m (Depth) and 1no internally illuminated led logo box measuring 3.6m (Height) x 1.88m (Width) x 0.5m (Depth) to the northern elevation of the building.

London House 100 New King's Road London SW6 4LX 2016/00396/VAR

I give notice that London Square Developments is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission ref: 2012/03855/FUL granted 31st October 2013 to allow amendments to the approved drawings to include: excavation at basement level to form a part basement to include relocated plant equipment, refuse and cycle storage; reconfiguration of the ground, first, second, third, fourth and fifth floor in connection with changes to the proposed mix of residential units to 4 x 1 bed and 20 x 2 bed flats;

relocation of the building core towards the north of the site; formation of 2no roof terraces to the roof level at 8th floor; alterations to the elevations including the bays, installation of new doors / entrances.

The proposal constitutes a major development. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **27th March 2016**. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

Signed: **NIGEL PALLACE**
Executive Director for Transport and Technical Services

on behalf of HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL

You can view applications, make comments and monitor their progress on our website:

www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning. Click on the 'Planning Online' logo on the Planning Home Page. You can also E-mail comments to: plancomments@lbhf.gov.uk.

You can also inspect details of applications using computers at our office **RECEPTION FIRST FLOOR HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL EXTENSION KING STREET W6** between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

If you want to make comments on applications please E-mail them through our website or post them to **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICE ENVIRONMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT TOWN HALL KING STREET W6 9JU** by the date shown above. Please include the application reference number and the name of the planning officer. We will try to consider any representations received after the date indicated but this cannot be guaranteed so please reply promptly. For initial enquiries call our information and reception service on **020 8753 1081** or **020 8753 1082**.



Send us your comments about planning applications via our website: www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning

Hammersmith & Fulham Council

LONDON WEEKLY JOBS

Call: 0208 768 4919 Fax: 0208 776 8863 Email: candy.brown@slp.co.uk

Media Sales Executives - Field and Telephone Sales

The South London Press, Mercury and London Weekly News are looking for Media Sales Executives. We need new team members to join our existing sales force to sell advertising solutions to businesses right across London.

Our titles cover South West/East London, Central London and West London along with associated websites. We are looking for exceptional people to join our team at our offices based in Penge SE20.

The roles are varied but the constant will be to service existing customers and grow our business by building good, solid relationships with business owners by helping them to make the right decision when putting together their advertising schedules.

To be successful you will need to have a flexible approach, be innovative and creative, you must be able to work well under pressure and have a very strong will to succeed in what is an extremely competitive industry.

A proven sales background in publishing is preferred, however we are also interested to talk to people who are highly motivated and keen to learn.

The Offer:

Basic salary

Bonus structure (paid monthly)

Opportunity to earn additional commission through special publications

5 weeks holiday per annum

Pension scheme (after qualifying period)

Fully expensed company car (Field Sales positions only)

On-going training

If you would like to know more, please contact Karen McLean by email at karen.mclean@slp.co.uk - I look forward to hearing from you.



Capital Media Newspapers Ltd
Yeoman House, 6th Floor,
63 Croydon Road,
Penge SE20 7TS

Book-keeper PENGE

Capital Media Newspapers Ltd is the parent company of some of London's oldest local newspapers, South London Press, The Mercury series and London Weekly News series based in South London and we are also Pulmans View From series in Dorset.

Due to a recent change of ownership and re-organisation, the Penge office is looking for a Book-keeper.

The successful candidate will be an all-round accounting person who can deal with the Purchase Ledger, the Credit Control and Sales Ledger as well as other sundry accounting functions.

Along with the relevant qualifications to do this job, the successful applicant will have an excellent work ethic, able to work to deadlines, prioritise work load during busy times and roll up sleeves to help during quiet periods.

Contact Karen Sheppard
Tel: 020 8768 4903
Email: karen@slp.co.uk



Capital Media Newspapers Ltd
Yeoman House, 6th Floor,
63 Croydon Road,
Penge SE20 7TS



Learning Support Assistants

City Heights E-ACT Academy is a newly-established 11-18 secondary academy in Tulse Hill.

It is part of the E-ACT Multi-Academy Trust and also has strong ties to the Lambeth education family.

We are looking to increase our team of Learning Support Assistants for September 2016.

We welcome applications from both experienced LSAs as well as those with Autistic experience to work with our ASD students.

There will be a Recruitment Fair on Saturday 12th March from 10.30am-12.30pm when you will have the opportunity to look around the academy and meet the Principal and Assistant Principal (inclusion).

If you would like to apply please visit our website at

www.cityheightse-actacademy.org

or for further information please email Ollie at work@chea.org.uk

Closing date: 22nd March 2016



St. Charles Catholic Sixth Form College is a highly successful beacon sixth form college situated in North Kensington. It provides for over 1000 16-19 year old full-time students following a range of courses from Foundation to Advanced level.

'Outstanding' grade awarded in OFSTED inspection - October 2007

Security/Site Care Assistant

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LONDON WEEKLY NEWS

sport

Rangers in need of derby day delight

THERE will be little more than bragging rights at stake when Queens Park Rangers and nearest rivals Brentford meet at Loftus Road in a mid-table Championship battle on Saturday.

Hopes by fans of both west London clubs that they would compete for a play-off place have now been extinguished. The teams are deeply entrenched in mid-table mediocrity – R's two places and one point above the Bees before the midweek games that precede this Shepherd's Bush showdown.

For Rangers, it's another chance to end an extraordinarily abysmal record in London derbies. Before this season's failure to win any of their last four capital clashes, Hoops had managed only 17 wins in 70 derbies with eight London clubs

since the Premier League was formed in 1992. Only Crystal Palace have a worse top flight derby record in that period. For Brentford, this is an opportunity to complete a rare league double over their closest neighbours following their 1-0 win over Chris Ramsey's men at Griffin Park last October – their first competitive victory against them in 50 years.

Owe fans

Having already been battered home and away by Fulham (an aggregate loss of 7-1), and gone down 2-0 at

Charlton on the opening day of the season, QPR owe their long-suffering fans a good performance on Saturday.

Anything less than three points will be unacceptable against a Brentford side on a wretched run of only one win in their last seven matches – the worst form of any Championship club. They lost at home to second-bottom Charlton on Saturday, having slumped to defeat at third-from-bottom Rotherham in their previous outing.

But QPR have not managed two consecutive league wins since they saw off Leeds United and Reading before the Christmas decorations went up on December 3, and last Saturday's 2-0 defeat at lowly Milton Keynes Dons scuppered hopes of building upon their previous weekend's home win against Birmingham City by the same margin.

A more encouraging stat for Rangers followers to cling to is that they have lost only two of their last 10 league games, although manager Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink took no crumbs of comfort from losing to the team just one place above the relegation zone. MK Dons, without a win in four games, were the better side after the break and won thanks to goals from Dean Lewington (49 mins) and a Ben Reeves penalty in stoppage time.

Hasselbaink said: "The first half was OK, we had control. But then the second half wasn't good. It was not us – it's not



**LOFTUS ROAD
RANGERS REVIEW**
With Tony McDonald

how we've been doing things, especially during the last few weeks.

"It wasn't how we've defended, and how we've played. It was without intensity, without ideas and without commitment.

"We never came out of the blocks in the second half. We just never got started. We never did the things that we are good at.

"We lost the second balls, and they played off them. We didn't anticipate."

The scoreline could have been worse for the visitors had keeper Alex Smithies not saved MK Dons' first penalty, taken by Josh Murphy, diving low to his left.

Hasselbaink refused to make excuses following the enforced substitution of defender Grant Hall, who suffered a foot injury.

Change things

"We don't know yet (about the extent of Grant's injury) but we will have a look," he explained. "Hopefully it's not too bad.

"I had to change things – that's just how it is. But that's not an excuse. We've got

enough experience in our team to know that we have to play with desire, with a will.

"In the second half, we didn't play at our usual tempo. We played very slow. And when you play slow, you have a problem."

Ahead of tonight's (Tues) home game against Derby County, Hasselbaink added:

"We cannot be up and down. We have to be consistent."

I began this week's column by talking of the 'bragging rights' at stake when Brentford make the five-mile trip to Loftus Road on Saturday. That may be true for younger fans in desperate search of a rare ray of sunlight amid a largely gloomy winter.

But die-hard Hoops who are much longer in the tooth can still recall golden days when there was genuine cause for rejoicing. Perhaps they won't thank me for reminding them that, 40 years ago this week, a 4-1 home thumping of Coventry City propelled QPR to the top of the old first division!

Now that really was something to boast about.

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Saturday, March 12
FULHAM v Bristol City, 3.00
QPR v Brentford, 3.00
Everton v CHELSEA (FAC Q/F), 5.30



■ **BY GEORGE!** Fulham legend George Cohen takes on George Best during a first division match against Manchester United at Craven Cottage in the mid-60s.

Statue to honour World Cup legend

FULHAM fans have been invited to help fund a new statue in honour of World Cup-winning defender George Cohen.

Kensington-born Cohen spent his whole career with Whites, making 459 appearances between 1956 and 1969.

The great George Best – who enjoyed a spell with Fulham later in his illustrious career – once described Cohen as "the best full-back I ever played against."

His 37 full international caps, earned between 1964 and 1967, included every game of the glorious 1966 World Cup tournament.

Former right-back Cohen, 76, had to wait until 2000 to be awarded the MBE in the New Year's Honours, along with four of his Wembley team-mates from that epic final against West Germany.

Now, 50 years on from his most celebrated achievement, the man who is arguably England's greatest-ever right-back will be immortalised in bronze at Craven Cottage when his statue is erected in October of this year.

Fulham FC has commissioned sculptor Douglas Jennings to create a statue of Cohen, who has for many years been a fantastic ambassador for the club's work in the community.

He remains a host of his own George Cohen Lounge on match days at The Cottage, where he delights visitors with anecdotes and tales of his former playing days along with insightful analysis of the club's most recent performances.

As part of the fundraising process, two initiatives in his name will be launched with the aim of improving men's health through local dementia care and health preventative programmes.

The statue and the dementia and

men's health programmes managed by the club's Foundation will require significant funding. Fulham chairman Shahid Khan has pledged to match every single pound raised to ensure that not only the statue is erected, but that the Foundation can deliver initiatives supporting George's chosen cause.

"George Cohen and Craven Cottage are each at the heart of the history and tradition of Fulham Football Club," Khan said. "Mr Cohen continues to inspire us at Fulham, as well as everyone who loves the game of football in England.

"It's only appropriate that Mr Cohen be celebrated and honoured here at Craven Cottage by the club as well as our fans who can take part in the effort to recognise a legendary member of the Fulham family and make a difference in the good causes that Mr Cohen supports."

Fans worldwide will also be given the opportunity to contribute in a multitude of different ways, including a personal engraving on a brass plaque that will adorn the stone plinth on which the statue will stand, along with 'money-can't-buy experiences' involving the Fulham team.

Bob Howes, chairman of the supporter-led group that proposed the statue to Fulham earlier this year, said: "We're delighted that this honour is being paid to George Cohen MBE, a true gentleman who has given so much to the supporters of Fulham, England and the world of football. Our committee are fully committed and would like to invite all supporters to join us in funding this exciting project."

Fulham already have a statue of former Fulham and England inside-forward Johnny Haynes outside Craven Cottage, which was unveiled in 2008.



■ **SAVING grace:** Alex Smithies saved one of two MK Dons penalties. Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

Blues linked with Pochettino

ITALIAN national coach Antonio Conte is all but a done deal as the next permanent Chelsea manager – he is expected to meet with owner Roman Abramovich in Monaco this week to finalise terms.

But Blues' director of football Michael Emenalo is believed to be sounding out Tottenham Hotspur's coach Mauricio Pochettino as a possible replacement for Guus

Hiddink should Conte opt for a new challenge elsewhere when his stint as national coach ends after the Euro 2016 championships are over.

It would be a remarkable, if somewhat expensive, coup for Abramovich. Spurs' chairman Daniel Levy would demand substantial financial compensation for the loss of the Argentine, who has transformed the north London club into title contenders.

In another bizarre

twist that only the likes of Emenalo could conjure up, there is also the prospect of re-signing Romelu Lukaku from Everton.

The Belgium was signed by Chelsea for £18million from Anderlecht in 2011 but farmed out to West Bromwich Albion and Everton before the Toffeemen splashed out £28m to take him to Goodison, where he has become something of a cult hero.

Now Emenalo is

staking his already fragile reputation on bringing the 22-year-old striker back to SW6 for the thick end of £56m.

It would be a significant and expensive admission of guilt by the hierarchy at Stamford Bridge but also a signal to Chelsea's youngsters that if they don't make the grade first time out, there is still the outside chance of a successful career in this part of west London.

■ **CHELSEA'S FA Youth Cup semi-final, first leg has had a time change.**

The cup holders' match against Blackburn Rovers will now take place at Ewood Park on Friday, March 18 at 7.45pm, rather than the original 7.00 kick-off.

Tickets cost £5 for adults and £1 for concessions. A date for the return leg at Stamford Bridge has yet to be set.

Paul Lagan

SPORT

Tuesday, March 8th, 2016

● SPORTS DESK: 07711 169 427

Crunch week for Chelsea

THIS is a week like no other for Chelsea as their season hangs by a thread.

Mid-table mediocrity is the best the Premier League champions can hope for following a 1-1 draw at home to Stoke City that leaves them in 10th place, 10 points adrift of the top four.

At Stamford Bridge tomorrow (Weds) Blues must overcome a 2-1 deficit against Paris Saint-Germain to progress in the Champions League.

Then on Saturday evening they face the daunting prospect of an FA Cup quarter-final trip to Goodison Park, where they were well beaten, 3-1, by Everton in the league last September.

A 1-0 win against the much-fancied French side is all that's needed for Blues to reach the quarter-final of Europe's elite club competition.

But PSG's hungry strike-force of Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Edison Cavani and Angel Di Maria will surely look at Chelsea's current weakened back four and feel they will simply be too strong for them.

It will be a daunting prospect for out-of-sorts Baba

● By LWN reporter **Paul Lagan**
sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

if he is handed the left-back berth. The Ghana defender was ruthlessly hauled off at half-time by Guus Hiddink in the recent win at Southampton and was dropped for winger Kenedy in the 2-1 victory at Carrow Road against relegation-haunted Norwich City last Tuesday. Although a minor injury to Kenedy saw him recalled to the side for the draw with Stoke, he had another fraught match.

Same defence

With no sign of a return for the injured John Terry, which would allow Branislav Ivanovic to revert to right-back and Cesar Azpilicueta to take Baba's place, it looks like the same defence that conceded a late equaliser to the Potters will face PSG, too.

Meanwhile, PSG decided to rest half their first team for their 0-0 draw against Montpellier, a tactic that was not lost on Hiddink.



■ DIEGO Costa is expected back after being rested for the Stoke game Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

He said: "PSG played with only half their normal team at the weekend to prepare for the match against us.

"They have a very broad squad. If you see their beautiful bench with a lot of first 11 players, then they have the luxury to rest a lot of them. That might be an advantage, but we won't use it as an excuse."

One Chelsea player missing from Saturday's Stoke match was Diego Costa. The Brazil-born Spain striker is in a rich vein of form, scoring for fun and was much missed.

Hiddink revealed he had a slight tendon problem and was not risked.

Costa watched the first half behind the dugout with his colleagues, but got bored and ended up watching the second period with the Chelsea fans in The Shed.

Hiddink said of his No.1 striker: "Diego Costa had a little problem on a tendon but that is why I decided not to risk worsening the situation. But I think he will be OK for Wednesday."

Bertrand Traore was offered his first start at Stamford Bridge and despite performing poorly, managed to notch a spectacular goal with a rasping



This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE

left-foot drive from 20 yards to open the scoring six minutes before the break.

Hiddink said of the 20-year-old from Burkina Faso: "In Traore you can see in parts of the game that he has the quality. He has shown that already. But it's a little bit different when you start the game at Stamford Bridge.

"The young players also have to get control and dominate their nerves. And you could see that in the beginning.

"But he showed with the goal that he has the capacity to do a lot."

Asked if he was ahead of Loic Remy and Pato as the man to stand in for Costa when needed, Hiddink gave a diplomatic answer: "All the strikers compete among themselves. We have some strikers now who compete in a healthy way. If they can show what they can do in training, then it will be rewarded."

Hiddink has conceded that a top four finish, already very unlikely before the Stoke match, is now out of reach after dropping two more points.

"I think getting into the top four now is almost impossible, especially when other teams are also knocking on that door – such as West Ham (the next league visitors to SW6 on Saturday week), with their 3-2 win at Everton. It's very respectful that they are knocking on that door as well.

"But, as I have said before, we have to win all our remaining games. We know where we were in December – one point off the relegation zone. Amazingly, we got safe in a relatively short period of time. But also, going into the middle of the table is normally not good enough by Chelsea's standards.

"But we can go into a beautiful March and April and I am referring to the upcoming Champions League and FA Cup matches against PSG and Everton respectively."

It was, of course, during Hiddink's last spell at the helm that Chelsea beat Everton to win the 2009 FA Cup final.

Of the Stoke fixture which ended a three-match winning sequence, although not his team's run of 12 without defeat in the league, Hiddink added: "We are frustrated, as we conceded a late goal. You can say that we started a bit sloppy in the first half and after 15/20 minutes we got more energetic and composure. We scored a beautiful goal through Bertrand Traore.

"In the second half, I think there was one key moment when we did not get the reward of a penalty for the foul on Oscar. It was a clear penalty. I'm not often saying this, but it would have been given as a freekick had it been outside the penalty area.

"But we must not say that Stoke were not pushing us. They got encouraged by that let-off. They have very creative players in their attacking part of the team. So at the end I think it was a fair result."



Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

Paying the penalty again

PENALTIES could decide Saturday's vital match at Craven Cottage between Fulham and fellow strugglers Bristol City.

Ahead of the midweek games played after LWN went to press, the two teams were locked together at the wrong end of the table on 37 points apiece. Whites held 19th position, one above City, thanks to their far superior goals tally.

Intriguingly, Fulham have had more penalties awarded against them – 10 – than any other Championship team this season, while the Cherries have the next worst record (shared with QPR) of six pens conceded.

On Saturday, Ross McCormack got Fulham out of another spot of bother when he converted from 12 yards in the 52nd minute to earn Whites a 2-2 draw at Reading.

It was McCormack's third successful penalty of the season and his 17th goal of the league campaign keeps him in touch with the second tier's leading scorer, Burnley's Andre Gray – whose pen to beat Blackburn Rovers sent his team to the top of the table – on 21.

McCormack's coolly taken penalty into the

bottom corner of the net, having sent Reading keeper Al Habsi the wrong way, was only worth one point instead of three, because Fulham had gifted their latest penalty to the opposition earlier in proceedings.

In an end-to-end encounter, Moussa Dembélé put Whites in front with a volley from six yards but Hal Robson-Kanu levelled from the spot after he was needlessly fouled by Fernando Amorebieta. Robson-Kanu headed the hosts in front four minutes before half-time, before McCormack again saved the day.

Unnecessary mistakes

Unlike most pro managers who shamelessly offer embarrassing excuses for the ill-judged actions of their players, Fulham head coach Slavisa Jokanović had no complaints about the penalty awarded against his side after Amorebieta's reckless challenge.

He said: "We opened the game very well but then made some unnecessary mistakes. We showed some character in the second half but we need to be more solid. In the last 15 minutes they pushed us."

The Serb was, however, pleased that his players produced the right response following their previous outing, the 2-0 home defeat by Middlesbrough.

"Against Middlesbrough we didn't believe we could change the situation. Today we tried to do that. That is what I expect.

"We dominated the beginning of the game, created chances but weren't clinical enough. I don't remember them having chances in the first half but they scored two goals. If you need to score three goals to win, it's complicated."

With teams below Fulham picking up wins, leaving them just five points above the relegation zone, the draw at Reading could prove important. Jokanović added: "If you cannot win three points, it's better to take one. In front of me is a very important job. I know I will find difficulty in this job but I'm here to fix the problem."

Before bidding to complete a league double over Bristol City on Saturday (Whites hammered them 4-1 at Ashton Gate last October), Fulham face Burnley at Craven Cottage tonight (Tues).

■ More FULHAM on page 27

■ More CHELSEA on page 27